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Saipan Tribune

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POLL RESULTS

Are you looking forward to this year's holiday season?

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Sunday, November 23, 2008

55 DAYS without a government budget for FY 2009

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Obama's New Deal

President-elect Barack Obama promoted an economic plan Saturday he said would create or save 2.5 million jobs by spending billions of dollars to rebuild roads and bridges and modernize schools while developing alternative energy sources and more efficient cars.

Business...Page 13

Anti-Protectionism

Leaders who oversee half the world's economy pledged Saturday to avoid protectionism but shied away from any new proposals on the financial crisis because of somebody who wasn't there: U.S. President-elect Barack Obama.

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Ex-Commerce secretary argues that conspiracy allegations also time-barred. **PAGE 3**

Wiseman denies motion to dismiss deportation case filed 3 years ago. **PAGE 4**

Admin insists lawsuit met legal requirements

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

Reyes

The Fitial administration insists it met legal requirements when it filed a lawsuit on behalf of the Commonwealth against the U.S. government to block the labor provisions of the new CNMI immigration law.

Press secretary Charles P. Reyes, in response to a legal opinion issued by the Senate's staff legal counsel Michael Ernest, said, "There is no legal issue here. We are in compliance with the legal requirements, even according to Mr. Ernest's analysis."

Ernest maintains that the CNMI

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MASTER SAND SCULPTOR NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Australian master sand sculptor Steve Machell works on the finishing touches of his creation during the 5th Annual "Build A Castle" contest organized by the Light in the Eve Foundation. It took Machell about six hours to build a merman and a mermaid portraying the spirit of the holiday season at the Hyatt Regency Saipan beach park. ***See story on Page 2***

Rahall pledges support for insular areas

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

Rahall

The reelected chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives' Natural Resources Committee has vowed to push for economic development and energy independence for

See RAHALL on Page 4

Aedan, 4, fights against leukemia

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Duldalao

Aedan Gregory Sablan Duldalao, 4, has virtually been fighting his whole life against leukemia. October 2008 was supposed to be the end of his agonizing chemotherapy treatment, but

See AEDAN on Page 4

Kilili cited for late filing of campaign finance report

By AGNES E. DONATO
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REPORTER

The Federal Election Commission has cited Delegate-elect Gregorio Kilili Sablan's campaign committee for failing to file a financing disclosure report on time.

But the committee says the deficiency

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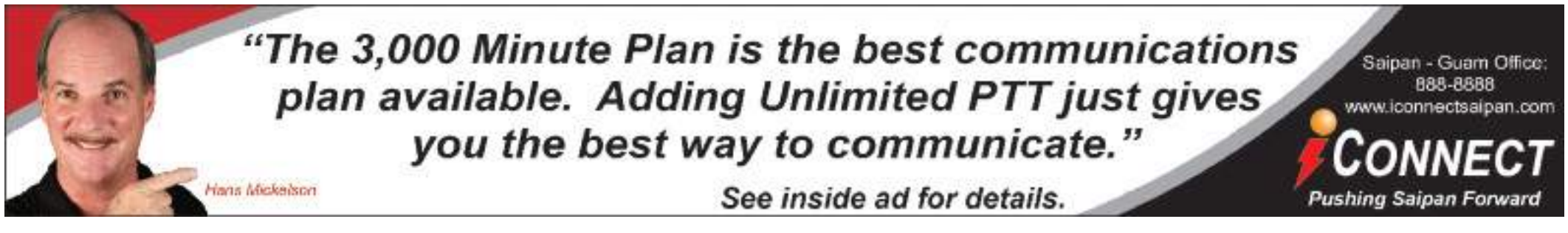
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Southern, Saipan Community win anew

Youngsters express care for ocean through art of sandcastle building

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Andrew Johnson and Sky Lee were not bored at all.

For about seven hours, the two youngsters along with their teammates playfully worked in the sand as they competed in the 5th Annual Build A Castle Save a Reef competition on Saturday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's beach park.

"Not boring. This is really fun. We like this so much. We have a good team work," said Johnson of Saipan International School.

Lee said "it's hard to do but you can learn so much and be creative" and most importantly it is a way to "express how to care about the environment."

For them, winning was just part of the fun but the event's objectives were more important.

Anna Zhu of Saipan Community School said she was excited for the new experience because it broadened her outlook on the things around her.

"We have a beautiful environment," quipped Zhu adding that it is amazing that while digging in the sand she and her teammates found lot of tiny trashes, "tools, nails, plastic, and those kinds of things."

Her team topped the junior high school division. The other members are James Ko, Justin Poon, and Isa Tudela.

For Noreen Mendiola of Tinian High School, this kind of activity was a smart thing to do.

"We have to promote this in order to conserve our coral reef. We should not pollute the water," Mendiola said.

SIS students Seo Hee and Emma Mc Cullough-Stearns echoed the same concern, saying this is a different form of reminding other people not to abuse the vast ocean resources for everybody's sake.

Light in the Eve Foundation organized the competition among 15 teams from various schools with the aim to raise awareness about the importance of preserving CNMI's coral reefs.

With this year's theme "Fantasea," all the teams built creatures they have known from the bottom of the sea—turtles, sea serpents, fish, mermaids, mermen, dolphins, corals, starfish, etc.

The winning team from Saipan Southern in the senior high school division erected an image of the king of sea turtles, Poseidon. The Manta Rays also earned the distinction as the most spirited group and were given the Starfish Award.

The winning team was composed of Meco Sablan, John Babauta, Nisho Torres, and Madisa Onni. Southern also won last year's contest.

Tinian HS was second and Grace Christian was third.

In the junior high school division, Saipan Community also defended its title, Rota High School was second, and Ladera

See SOUTHERN on Page 4

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
Senior students from Saipan Southern High School smile to the flash of cameras after receiving their trophy and $300 cash prize by defending their title in the 5th Annual Light in the Eve Foundation "Build A Castle" competition last Saturday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan beach.

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Ex-Commerce secretary argues that conspiracy allegations also time-barred

Former Commerce Secretary James Santos has filed a motion that echoed Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez's argument that the allegations in the conspiracy charge against them are time-barred.

Santos, through counsel Victorino DLG. Torres, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to order that the entire alleged transactions that occurred between 1998 to 2000 should be stricken as they are time barred.

Torres said the alleged transactions could not even be considered an "over act" to be even included in the indictment as the government even acknowledged that they have been negotiated and fully executed.

"The government's conduct to include activities over eight years ago is improper; there is a grave danger of undue prejudice which could easily confuse the issues and mislead the jury," said Torres in Santos' motion to strike.

Santos' co-defendant, Lt. Gov. Villagomez, through counsel David J. Lujan, in a motion to dismiss asserted that the applicable statute of limitations of five years for a conspiracy bars any and all allegations and or counts that rely on the overt acts alleged by the U.S. government.

Lujan said the indictment does not contain a single allegation of any overt act or wrongdoing of Villagomez or any co-conspirator between Jan. 4, 2000 and Aug. 7, 2007.

The indictment charged Villagomez, James Santos and his wife Joaquina, and former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Anthony Guerrero, with wire fraud, conspiracy, and theft involving federal funds.

The four allegedly conspired to bilk the CNMI government out of thousands of dollars through business deals involving chemical purchases for CUC.

In the motion, Torres said Santos and co-defendants are charged to have committed a conspiracy which has a statute of limitation of five years.

Torres said the U.S. government has alleged overt acts which occurred between Feb. 6, 1998 to Jan. 4, 2000.

"These allegations clearly fall outside the statute of limitations and must be stricken entirely from the indictment," he said.

The lawyer cited a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that has clearly established that the statute of limitation must be satisfied as to each object of a conspiracy when the government charges a multi-object as it has done in this case.

Torres said the last over acts for the 1998 to 2000 is Jan. 4, 2000 whose statute of limitation ends on Jan. 4, 2005.

"Accordingly, the entire transactions which allegedly occurred between 1998 to 2000 should be stricken entirely since they were not charged within the applicable time period of five years," he said.

Torres said the allegation stemming of activities over eight years ago substantially affects Santos' s ability to properly investigate, prepare and formulate a proper and meaningful defense.

"It would be impractical to formulate a defense when many witnesses are no longer available and those that are available, their memories are limited," he said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

A patient avails a free BP check-up being performed by a volunteer during the Family Health Awareness Day on Saturday near the Sabalu market area. NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Diabetes prevention a big challenge on Saipan

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Health is facing a big challenge because of the alarming rate of people with diabetes in the islands.

It is estimated that about 30 percent or one third of the population of the CNMI have above the normal levels of sugar in their blood.

The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program has been conducting activities and ways how to combat this.

One such event was the "Family Health Awareness Day" last Saturday near the Sabalu market, where hundreds of people of all ages took part in a free clinic that also included live music and dance entertainment.

The event's head coordinator Trina Sablan said their goal is to promote diabetes awareness among the community.

"We want to reach out everybody, kids and parents, because we have a big number of people affected. We want to educate them in our creative way and in many ways. This is just one of them," Sablan said.

She said they want to make a strong message that "we provide quality services to the community."

The event is in collaboration with the Community Guidance Center, Breast Cervico Screening Program, Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, Marianas Health Services, Commonwealth Diabetes Coalition, Ayuda Network, DPH, Division of Environmental Quality, and Northern Marianas College-CREES.

Sablan also thanked the Kagman Honor Society for helping then in organizing the venue and assisting the people. Other sponsors were Power 99, First Hawaiian Bank, and Herman's Bakery.

Booths from all these agencies and NGOs provided volunteer services like flu vaccination shot, blood sugar screening, and blood pressure check-up.

Nursing clubs were also there to volunteer their services as well as the DPH immunization department were.

Aside from the medical services, people were also provided with free healthy foods, T-shirts, and healthy kits.

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Wiseman denies motion to dismiss deportation case filed 3 years ago

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has denied a motion to dismiss a deportation case filed three years ago against an alien worker.

Wiseman pointed out that respondent Haydee Damasco has not specifically articulated the grounds on which dismissal of the case is appropriate.

The judge set a status conference for Dec. 11, 2008 at 1:30pm.

Court records show that Damasco and her husband, Dionisio Brana, both Filipinos, entered CNMI on nonresident worker permits. Brana's permit expired in November 2003, while Damasco's in July 2001.

The government alleged that the couple failed to comply with the requirements or conditions of their respective entries into the CNMI by remaining on Saipan after their permits expired.

As a result, the government initiated deportation proceedings against Damasco in 2005 and against Brana in 2004.

Damasco requested the court to delay the deportation proceedings pursuant to a labor claim she filed in Sept. 2005.

In October 2005, Wiseman denied the motion. He ruled that filing of a labor claim does not preempt the trial court of jurisdiction over a deportation case.

Damasco asked the court to reconsider the order. But in November 2005, Wiseman denied the motion for reconsideration.

Following a hearing in January 2006, the court ordered Damasco deported. However, the court subsequently vacated the order of deportation and recalled the case.

Thereafter, Damasco, through counsel Stephen C. Woodruff, filed a motion to dismiss the case.

However, the government and Damasco then entered negotiations and the motion to dismiss was suspended.

Party negotiations have since failed and the court is again presented with the respondent's motion to dismiss.

Woodruff objected to the government having an additional opportunity to present evidence to support an order of deportation.

Woodruff argued that this is a second "bite at the apple" which violates due process and equal protection.

Woodruff asserted that when a respondent fails to avoid deportation, he or she is not given additional opportunities to present evidence, therefore, the government should not be given an additional opportunity.

In his order issued on Thursday, Wiseman said under Commonwealth Rule of Civil Procedure, on motion of the parties, the court may "open the judgment if one has been entered, take additional testimony, amend findings of act and conclusion of law or make new ones, and direct entry of a new judgment."

Wiseman said the majority of jurisdictions have held that filing a motion to reopen in immigration proceedings is part and parcel of the earlier immigration proceedings and merely revives prior proceedings.

"This conclusion is not akin to the prejudice of double jeopardy in criminal trials and this court finds no implication of respondent's due process or equal protection rights," he said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

AEDAN

From Page 1

the leukemia has relapsed and is even more aggressive.

A bone-marrow (stem-cells or cord blood) transplant is now a must for the young Aedan at the University of Medical Center in Tucson, Arizona by next week. He has been in the hospital in Henderson, Nevada since Oct. 6, 2008. He needs more prayers and his parents—Audrey Jo Sablan and Mario Duldalao—need financial support for the extensive medical costs.

Upon learning about Aedan's story, the fundraising organized at the Pacific Islands Club on Saipan Saturday night received an outpouring of support from family members, friends, community members, and businesses.

Due to the overwhelming support, the organizers had to move the cocktail supposedly at PIC's Seaside to the beachside to accommodate more people.

"We were thinking 40, 50 people at the most. We're going to hold it upstairs at Seaside. That was our intent at first," according to one of the fundraising organizers, Angela Yamashita Santos.

Santos, who is an aunt of Aedan, told *Saipan Tribune* during the event that people were calling them saying they want to buy tickets, they want to help, and they want to donate.

"It's just kind of blow up to our delight of course and it just became a very large function," said Santos as she estimated about 160 people came with each purchased a $50 ticket.

"This is when you really know that Saipan is such…the community is very strong, the sense of community, the sense of family. So we are just to thankful to everybody, really," Santos said.

Audrey Jo Sablan, a native of Saipan, met her Filipino-Hawaiian husband, Mario Duldalao, in Las Vegas. They have two sons—Aedan and the 1-year-old Kallan.

Aedan was only 18 months old in 2005 when he was diagnosed with high-risk Acute Lumphoblastic Leukemia, which is cancer of the blood forming tissues known as the bone marrow.

Aedan endured three and a half years of chemotheraphy. He survived a near fatal pneumonia virus. The chemotheraphy treatment was supposed to end last October, but instead the leukemia has relapsed and this time, the cancer was also found in his spinal fluid which surrounds the brain.

Doctors started intense chemotheraphy immediately, but they discovered that the bone marrow was not recovering as it was resisting the treatment.

Doctors determined that the combination is extremely toxic to all organs of the body to which a child can only endure up to five rounds so a bone-marrow transplant is vital for Aedan's survival.

The Duldalao couple and their youngest son, Kallan, had their blood drawn to see if they could be a donor match. Unfortunately, none of them were a match. Some members of the Sablan clan had their blood drawn too, but there were no match too.

Ronald Sablan, father of Audrey, said he went to Nevada because of his grandson Aedan's last chemotheraphy on Oct. 6 and that they were expecting for him to be under full remission at that time.

Sablan said when they were informed that the leukemia has relapsed, he and the rest of brothers, sisters, and family members proceeded to the hospital hoping that one of them would have matched for the bone marrow transplant.

"Unfortunately none of us did," he said.

Sablan said while he was leaving Nevada to go back to Saipan last Oct. 31, he said goodbye to them in the hospital.

"He (Aedan) was just cuddling on his bed and he said 'Papa are you leaving me? I just broke out [in tear], my daughter broke out," Sablan said.

Aedan's words prompted Sablan to extend his stay.

Sablan said after a few days the blessing came true—a search for a match in the National Donor Registry and the Cord-blood Donor Registry found three cord-blood matches.

"I thanked God!" said Sablan, who was with Aedan for one month and only came back to Saipan last week.

Santos said they were lucky because Aedan basically only has a week left at that time until the match was found.

"We were praying for miracle and we got it. We're so thankful. And I really believe that it's because of the prayers of all our friends and family here and in the states and everywhere," Santos said.

Back on Saipan, Mr. Sablan, his sister Jean Duenas Sablan, and Jean's daughter, Angela Yamashita Santos immediately arranged the fundraising at PIC.

At the fundraising event, auction was held after the cocktails and refreshments. The Icon Band and Larry Lee also entertained the participants.

Mr. Sablan said he is very touched with the overwhelming support to the fundraising from the community and the people they know.

"We would definitely appreciate any other assistance we can get from the community and family members. They can always reach us with my sister Jean at her house number at 234-8445 and her cellphone is 287-9114. My niece Angela can be called at PIC or at 234-6464," Mr. Sablan said.

Santos said every penny raised at the event is going to Aedan to assist in his surgery, bone marrow transplant, as well as his recovery which will be anywhere between four and seven months.

Aedan will turn 5 years old on Dec. 20. If the transplant would be successful, he would actually be looking at a new life after that birthday.

ADMIN

From Page 1

Constitution allows an outside law firm to "represent the CNMI in the litigation, but it must be with the explicit authority granted from the [attorney general] and the AG must maintain some minimal control over the litigation."

Acting attorney general Gregory Baka holds that the CNMI Constitution authorizes the AG's office to refer cases to private law firms and that delegation is not legally required to be in writing. "Hundreds of pleadings are filed annually by the OAG without the AG's personal review or signature. Yet as the deputy attorney general, I did personally review and comment upon various drafts of the complaint in our Section 903 litigation," Baka has said in a letter previously sent to Rep. Tina Sablan.

Section 903 of the U.S.-CNMI Covenant allows either party to bring to court any dispute arising under the Covenant.

"Regarding the story on the federal lawsuit," Reyes wrote in an email yesterday, "again, the AG did approve the filing of the lawsuit, and written authorization is not required. Secondly, Howard Willens has served as an Assistant Attorney General, as well as Special Counsel to the Governor, since January 2006, and he has represented the Commonwealth in that capacity in the local courts."

The U.S.-based law firm, Jenner & Block, and attorney Howard Willens, special legal counsel to Governor Fitial, are representing the CNMI government in the lawsuit.

KILILI

From Page 1

has been corrected and the committee was not penalized for the late filing.

The FEC issued citations to sixteen campaign committees, including Sablan's committee, after failing to receive Sablan's pre-election report by Oct. 31, 2008. The reports were due on Oct. 23, 2008, and should have included financial activity for the period Oct. 1, 2008, through Oct. 15, 2008.

Edward H. Manglona, treasurer for the Committee to Elect Gregorio Kilili Sablan for Delegate, said, "There was confusion with the deadline of when the report needed to be filed, however, as soon as the matter came to the committee's attention, the proper form was filled out and sent promptly. The Federal Election Commission did send out a notice of failure to file, however, since the report was received, there has been no other communication from the FEC and the committee was not fined for the late filing."

He added that the report was sent by certified mail because Sablan's spending did not reach the minimum amount to qualify for electronic filing. "In order to qualify to file report electronically, a candidate must have spent over a certain amount during his bid to a federal office. The amount of monies Kilili's campaign expended during the election did not meet the minimum requirement in order for his committee to qualify for e-filing his campaign financing report. Kilili spent significantly less than the mandatory minimum."

According to the FEC website, any committee that receives contributions or makes expenditures over $50,000 in the current calendar year, or that has reason to expect to do so, must submit its reports electronically.

Some individuals and their committees have no obligation to file reports under federal election law, even though their names may appear on state ballots. If an individual raises or spends less than $5,000, he or she is not considered a "candidate" subject to reporting under the Act.

The FEC notified committees involved in this primary of their potential filing requirements on Sept. 29, 2008. Those committees who did not file on the due date were notified on Oct. 24, 2008, that reports had not been received and that their names would be published if they did not respond within four business days.

Other political committees that support Senate and House candidates in elections, but are not authorized units of a candidate's campaign, are also required to file quarterly reports, unless they report monthly. Those committee names are not published by the FEC.

RAHALL

From Page 1

the U.S. insular areas, including the Northern Marianas.

The House Democratic Caucus voted last week to retain Rep. Nick Rahall as chairman of the Natural Resources Committee during the 111th Congress. The committee is one of Congress' primary committees overseeing the environment, energy, public lands, and the insular areas.

In a statement released after his election, Rahall noted that the unique relationship between the United States and the five insular areas "engenders a duty to ensure and effectuate federal policies that are mindful of insular needs and the challenges that encumber development."

The statement adds, "Throughout our country's periods of peace and war, U.S. territories, along with our relationships with other affiliated Pacific Islands, have been integral to both the security and growth of our democracy. As a nation, we have a responsibility to foster sustainable development; providing a path for energy independence, improving infrastructure, responding to economic challenges, and promoting self-government.

"During the 110th Congress, the Committee took deliberative action to provide a path for political self-determination, consistent with the U.S. Constitution, for the people of Puerto Rico. We intend to, again, engage in this process for Puerto Rico and, when appropriate, work to provide a clear direction for all of her sister territories."

Rahall also said he was pleased that, for the first time ever, the CNMI will have a delegate in the House of Representatives. He added that he looks forward to working with the new resident commissioner from Puerto Rico "as we continue to engage in a process of political self-determination for that commonwealth."

SOUTHERN

From Page 2

High School came in third.

The teams were judged based on their creativity, degree of difficulty, composition, and presentation.

Unlike in the past where the competing teams were required to build castles, this time they were free to present figures but focused on the fantasy theme.

Other schools that joined were Hopwood Junior High and Whispering Palms School in the junior high school division, while GCA, LISS, Marianas Baptist Academy, Mount Carmel School, SIS, Tinian High School, and SSH entered in the senior high school category.

Before the competition, Australia's master sand sculptor Steve Machell conducted a free workshop.

Machell built two popular ocean fantasy characters—merman and mermaid—greeting everyone for the upcoming holidays.

GTS Security brings sleeping guard's case to court

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

GTS Security Inc. has asked the Superior Court to review Labor Secretary Gil M. San Nicolas' decision that found it unreasonable the termination of a security guard who fell asleep while awaiting his shift to start.

GTS Security, through counsel Maya B. Kara, said the company had no knowledge whatsoever that an appeal had been taken by security guard Danilo Y. Cruz.

In GTS' petition for judicial review, Kara said Cruz did not serve her client with any notice of appeal or with any other document such as supporting memorandum or brief in support of the appeal.

"Because GTS was denied the opportunity to defend, or in any way participate in, the appeal to the Secretary, GTS had no knowledge what additional evidence, if any, was presented or what arguments may have been made on appeal," Kara said.

The lawyer said had GTS had the notice of the appeal to the Secretary, the company would have introduced further evidence of Cruz's intoxication and other matters relevant to Cruz's discharge.

In his administrative order issued in November 2007, Labor administrative hearing officer Herbert Soll said Cruz encountered difficulty in getting to his work as a security guard on Dec. 28, 2005.

Cruz's automobile was not operating and he called for a ride from his employer, GTS Security. He arrived at work earlier than scheduled and sat down near the entrance to the Hafadai Beach Hotel employees' living quarters, his assigned work location.

Cruz soon fell asleep. The GTS supervisory employee discovered him in that sleeping state.

The supervisor assumed that the guard was under the influence of alcohol and photographed him.

The supervisor then called for a replacement to take his soon-to-begin shift. When Cruz finally awakened it was after 11pm.

Cruz attempted to speak with the managing officer of the employing corporation. He was, however, not given an opportunity to do so.

A letter of discharge was written on Dec. 29, 2005 and served upon Cruz.

Cruz adamantly denied being intoxicated. He claimed to have been tired after a prolonged effort to repair his vehicle that day.

In his order, Soll found Cruz less at fault than GTS is by measure of the refusal to allow him to state his position before final termination was decided.

Soll said the evidence at the hearing, however, established that reasonable grounds existed to support the termination action taken.

Soll did not award Cruz with his claim for wages, but allowed the complainant to transfer to a new employer.

Cruz, through attorney Stephen C. Woodruff, appealed Soll's decision to the Labor Secretary.

Woodruff asserted that Soll's order erred as a matter of law in failing to award contract damages when the facts as found by the hearing officer and stated in the order clearly established that the termination was wrongful.

Labor Secretary San Nicolas said he disagrees that reasonable grounds existed to support GTS Security's termination of Cruz.

"There was no evidence introduced by the Appellee (GTS) in support of the supervisor's assumption of intoxication, save the fact that Appellant (Cruz) was sleeping," he pointed out.

San Nicolas remanded the case for further hearing and instructed Soll to take evidence on wages due and award Cruz such sum.

In GTS petition, Kara said GTS vice president for operations John D. Guerrero appeared on behalf of the company at the hearing on Oct. 28, 2008.

Kara said Guerrero was under the impression that this was yet another mediation sessions.

The lawyer said Cruz's failure to serve GTS with service of process regarding his appeal of the hearing officer's decision was in flagrant violation of GTS' due process rights and also of Labor's Employment Rules and Regulations.

Kara asked the court to set aside and vacate the secretary's order and affirm Soll's decision that reasonable grounds existed for the termination of Cruz's employment.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations go out to Marvyn Julius C. Batu for winning third place in the Math Court competition last Oct. 8 and first place in the Math Court competition last Nov. 11 held at William S. Reyes Elementary School.

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Bordallo welcomes UOG professor to capital

WASHINGTON, D.C—On Thursday, Nov. 20, 2008, Congresswoman Madeline Z. Bordallo attended the Professor of the Year Ceremony for state-level winner, Dr. Yukiko Inoue, a 13th year Professor of Educational Research and Psychology at the University of Guam.

This award is sponsored by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and administered by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). This prestigious national honor recognizes professors who excel in their chosen fields and are committed to their undergraduate students. The U.S. Professors of the Year program, created in 1981, is the only national initiative specifically designed to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring.

In addition to four national winners, 44 state-level Professors of the Year were recognized, with Dr. Inoue being the only winner from a U.S. territory. Dr. Yukiko Inoue is the third recipient in recent years from the University of Guam to receive this honor.

"Dr. Yukiko Inoue has the determination and devotion to provide our students with the educational foundations for their future success. This level of commitment to teaching and her desire to make a difference in her students' lives is admirable," Congresswoman Bordallo said. "I wish Dr. Inoue the best, commend her for this achievement and, on behalf of the people of Guam, thank her for her dedication."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CASE president John Lippincott and Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo welcome Professor Yukiko Inoue to Washington, D.C.

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INVITATION TO BID

ITB No: ITB-08-001

Submission/Opening date: November 24, 2008 Time: 10:00A.M.
Closing Date: December 31, 2008

Subject: Drilling of deep well at San Vicente Elementary School Campus for Brackish Water.

Copies of the specification may be picked up at the San Vicente Elementary School Office or for information, please fax questions to 664-3985 / Attention: Valrich Welch.

Preference is available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents a per public law 15-95 and as further amended by public law 15-118 and must be submitted with the proposal if preference is claimed.

This project is funded by Administration for Native Americans (ANA) and therefore preference is given to Native Islanders and other Native Americans (Hawaiian, Samoan, or any of the Native American Tribes).

/s/ Agnes McPheteres
Chairwoman, SVSCBM, Inc.

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HOLIDAY BAZAAR

A Brilliant weekend affair

MARCONI CALINDAS

Brilliant Star Holiday Bazaar 2008 gathered over a hundred shoppers and spectators last Saturday at the Multipurpose Center in Susupe.

By MARCONI CALINDAS
CORRESPONDENT

Christmas is indeed around the corner as Saipan welcomed the season with another successful event, dubbed Brilliant Star Holiday Bazaar 2008, held at the Pedro L. Tenorio Multipurpose Center in Susupe.

Over 24 booths and concessionaires, returning or new vendors, participated this year. Event chair Lydia Tan expressed gratitude to all the participants and parents that participated that helped this year bazaar a success.

The Brilliant Star Holiday Bazaar is an annual, pre-holiday festival showcasing the talents, crafts and services of CNMI artists as well as service providers "while spreading cheerful holiday spirit." In her letter to the participants, Tan said the school welcomes local artists, cultural performers, also gift and community service providers to join the annual community event through performing a short piece on stage or displaying/offering their crafts at a booth during the one day event.

This year the bazaar held additional attractions that included children's arts and crafts areas, annual holiday raffle, and a silent auction of children's art also displayed during the event last Saturday.

MARCONI CALINDAS

Students from the Glushko's Dance Academy performed a special ballet recital during the event.

MARCONI CALINDAS

Students checked a booth at the bazaar last Saturday.

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Pursuant to the Open Government Act, the RCGC's regular monthly meeting will be held as follows:

DATE : Wednesday, November 26, 2008
TIME : 3:00 P.M.
LOCATION : Tatachog Public Library Annex Building

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Adoption of Agenda
IV. Adoption of minutes
V. Chairman's Report
VI. Old Business
1. Casino Consultant
VII. New Business
1. RCGC Funding
VIII. Miscellaneous
IX. Adjournment

**At anytime during meeting, the commission may move to executive session.*

Diego M. Songao
Chairman

_____
Date

Group appeals to Immigration to include 4 IR categories

The United Workers Movement is appealing to the CNMI Division of Immigration to include four categories in the proposed amendments to allow for two-year permit for persons with Immediate Relative status.

The four categories are the following: a) Immediate relatives of Freely associated State citizens; b) Immediate relatives of qualified guest workers; c) Immediate relatives of CNMI permanent residents; and d) Immediate relatives of American Samoans.

UWM president Irene N. Tantiado Saturday said that although individuals on the fourth category are not that much, they must also be entitled to be included in the proposed amendments

Tantiado

Tantiado is wary that due to time constraints they would not be able to run a signature campaign to support this appeal.

The deadline to submit comments to Immigration is on Monday, Nov. 24.

"We hope the CNMI Immigration Division will consider our request especially because these people have helped the businesses in the sense that the employers do not pay to process their entry unlike the guest workers," Tantiado said.

She said that most of them have been here for 10 to 15 and some are more than 20 years.

In a related development, the U.S. Consul General for FSM, CNMI, and Guam Gerson Jackson, who earlier vowed to help in finding solutions to some of these issues, informed UWM that his counterpart from Palau, Consul General Jeff Kenty, recommended that they contact the Palau Representative in the CNMI, Eileen Kintol, to assist the group.

Citing provisions of the law, Jackson noted that Sections 141 and 142 of Article IV of Title One of the amended Compact Treaty, which was enabled by U.S. Public Law No. 108-188, "carry somewhat succinct languages/provisions that pretty much defined the right and privileges of FAS citizens and their Immediate Relatives under the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act."

He said that under Section 141[a][3] these IRs must be actual residents of any of the three FAS Entities for at least five years before they can be even considered for some of the privileges. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

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NMHC

This is to inform all Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)-approved Contractors that we are currently updating our *Approved Contractor Listing*. In order for NMHC to extend your company's inclusion on its listing for another year, you must submit the documentations listed below. Those companies not listed below, but wish to be included are likewise encouraged to submit the following:

1. Valid CNMI Business License
2. Certified Current Financial Statement
3. 2 Years Business Gross Revenue (BGR) Tax Forms
4. Clearance Letter from the Department of Labor
5. Certificate of Compliance from the Revenue & Taxation Office
6. Workmen's Compensation Policy
7. Name of Insurance Company(ies) Currently Dealing With
8. A list of on-going/completed projects showing name of project, start and completion dates, and contract amounts **including** three (3) reference letters from owners of the projects
9. List of vendors and suppliers **and** at least three reference letters from them
10. The company's total years in the construction business
11. Articles of Incorporation & Company By-Laws, if applicable

FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS BY DECEMBER 1, 2008 WILL RESULT IN YOUR COMPANY'S ELIMINATION FROM OUR LIST OF "APPROVED CONTRACTORS".

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

/S/JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO

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AMERICAN LANGENTE CORPORATION
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ASC CONSTRUCTION
BOKI ENTERPRISES
CAMACHO EQUIPMENT COMPANY
CHARGUALAF & ASSOCIATES
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DK BROTHERS
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"NMHC IS A FAIR HOUSING PROVIDER, LENDER AND EMPLOYER"

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

November 24, 1999

Heinz is new House speaker

After waiting in the wings for the past two years, Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider finally won support of the Republicans to become the Speaker of the House of Representatives when the 12th Legislature convenes in January. In a caucus attended yesterday by 10 GOP members of the lower house and other party leaders, Hofschneider won unopposed after his closest rival to the post, former House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, did not attend the two-hour meeting. Current Speaker Diego T. Benavente, who stepped down after six years, was voted as vice speaker, replacing Rep. Jesus T. Attao who will become the majority floor leader. Both lawmakers were unopposed.

33 residents infected with HIV

The Northern Marianas will join with the rest of the nation and other countries around the world in marking December 1 as World AIDS Day in hopes to raise awareness among the peoples and combat spread of the dreaded disease. In a proclamation signed by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday, the CNMI made a commitment to involve island residents in activities designed to increase awareness and understanding of HIV/AIDS as a global challenge as well as to encourage participation in worldwide efforts to stem alarming increase in the number of people infected by the virus. The chief executive told public health officials and volunteers who attended the signing ceremony at the Governor's Office to continue these local initiatives to educate the community, particularly the young people, on the risks of being exposed to the virus.

November 24, 2000

Quarry operators owe DPL $4.7-M

The CNMI government could have been about $5 million richer had the Division of Public Lands made good in its collection of rentals and land leases from quarry operators from 1990 to 1995, the Office of the Public Auditor said. According to a report released by OPA Wednesday, overall outstanding receivable from quarry operators during the six lease years under review, including rentals and interests, amounted to $4.69 million. A public audit revealed five quarry operators incurred back rentals amounting to $2.89 million; four quarry operators underpaid lease rentals by $261,311 due to misrepresentation of lease agreement provisions and incorrect rental computations.

Investors seek tax breaks from gov't

Two new hotels, a peanut butter factory and a hi-tech software manufacturing firm may open shops in the CNMI once the government implements a proposal granting tax breaks to new investments as well as existing businesses. HB 12-199, now known as the "Investment Incentive Act," cleared the Senate on Wednesday, drawing closer to the efforts to boost the islands' flagging economy. "There's a light at the end of a very long dark tunnel. If we come together," House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial said in pushing the legislation.

November 24, 2002

Dog owners asked: Leash 'em

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela appealed to all dog owners on the island to leash their dogs, in an effort to make the community a safer and better place for the animals and the residents alike. Tudela issued the statement in reaction to a recent incident at the Kagman II area, where a 16-year-old girl was allegedly beaten up by a much older man after she accidentally hit the suspect's unleashed dog. "The recent incident stemming from unleashed dog problem on Saipan has shocked me and I am now appealing to all dog owners to leash their dogs to avoid more unfortunate incidents," the mayor said.

TV captures real NMI-life drama

The CNMI community will get to know its first set of TV actors come Thursday with the premiere of a locally produced television drama called "Journeys." Co-written by Galvin Guerrero, director Sean Maycock, and three more individuals, "Journeys" shows stories of people's real journeys in life-as a teenager, a housewife, a husband, a grandparent, a politician, and a houseworker-in a setting that's close to the hearts of the islanders. "I play Rosie Kaipat, best friend of Esther, played by Josefa Teregeyo, the grandmother of a Carolinian family. I'm her best friend. I kind of help her through hard times she's having. We're raised here together and we're best friends," Linda Graf, a psychotherapist by profession, says in an interview.

Nine pacific nations consider partnerships

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (Radio New Zealand International)—Senior government officials from nine Pacific developing nations have recently shared their knowledge and experiences in managing public-private partnerships in a workshop held in Brisbane.

The workshop, "Strengthening Private Sector Participation for Physical Infrastructure in the Pacific Region", was sponsored by the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank Institute and the Bond University.

The Samoa Observer reports the workshop aims to raise awareness of the potential for projects in the Pacific and demonstrate the core elements required for their successful implementation.

Public Private Partnerships are contractual arrangements between the public and private sector for the provision of assets and/or services such as power, water, transportation, education and health.

Eugenue Zhukov, the Regional Director of ADB's Sydney Office says the bank is committed to supporting the development of these kinds of policy framework, to build capacity within the public sector to identify opportunities.

While Partnerships are not new in the power and water sectors in the Pacific, policy-makers are now exploring PPP opportunities in the transport infrastructure and health sectors to supplement public financial resources.

Faleomavaega steps in to quell passport flap

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (Radio New Zealand International)—American Samoa's member of the U.S. Congress Faleomavaega Eni Hunkin has called on Samoans not to pressure the U.S. judiciary over the detention of Cabinet Minister Hans Joachim Keil. Mr. Keil is accused of illegally holding a U.S. passport and is under strict bail conditions in Missouri where is he required to stay until his case is heard. Faleomavaega says he's met members of Mr. Keil's family as well as the U.S. Veterans Association of Samoa, of which Mr. Keil is a member. The Congressman says he has told the Keil family that any form of political pressure bei g placed on the US judiciary is unacceptable. He says he has offered to testify on Mr. Keil's behalf when he appears in court. Faleomavaega also says Mr Keil is not a criminal or a terrorist, and the matter could have been handled differently.

TAGA RIDERS
Taga Riders Club of Saipan held a lunch party for its founder George Camacho yesterday at the Mai Restaurant of Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. Inset, Camacho, second right, receives a certificate of appreciation and a poster of himself from the group.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

My brother's keeper

Having a bad economy is in itself already a terrible state to be in. Lost jobs, lost productivity, the day-to-day scramble to put food on the table, and the general air of pessimism make for a dreadful combination that is not only enervating but is also highly infectious.

Worse, a bad economy also results in a spike in crime, particularly robbery, theft, and burglary, as well as drug use. The crime level of a specific place is always directly proportional to the current state of its economy, so booming economies usually have low crime rates, while slumping economies have runaway figures for both petty and major crimes. What is particularly troublesome is that robberies and burglaries are what you might call "gateway felonies"—they inevitably lead to bigger crimes and, more often than not, end in murder.

That is what happened last week at Marianas High School. Security guard Efren Ballesteros was killed during a burglary and his tragic widow was left with the job of raising their two children, including one who just turned 5 months. That this monstrous crime was followed by the stabbing attack on a Good Samaritan in Chalan Kanoa and the case of a hotel employee who was robbed of cash by a customer only bolsters growing fears that crime is escalating on the islands.

The Department of Public Safety, to be sure, did a fine job of apprehending the three suspects in the MHS murder and, although this is not meant to indict the three, the fact that police were immediately able to show some progress in their investigation of this heinous crime speaks well of the department and the capability of its people. Both suspects in the stabbing attack and the hotel robbery have also been apprehended, putting these cases on track to being immediately resolved.

These, however, do nothing to ease of the minds of the other victims of crimes that are being committed throughout the island. Robberies and burglaries have been occurring left and right on Saipan, yet the police seem to be keeping these cases under their hats. We know of at least five burglaries and one mugging incident that have happened in the last four weeks, one in broad daylight, and we have yet to hear of a suspect or suspects being arrested for this spate of crimes.

Until such time that we manage to dig ourselves out from the current economic hole we're in, it seems almost a given that we will be seeing more and more of these incidents and, unless we remain vigilant, the ripples will sooner or later touch and engulf the island's tourists, putting into serious question Saipan's reputation as a safe destination for our visitors. We cannot and must not let that happen. The fragile state of our one-legged economy cannot afford anything that could affect our community's ability to survive.

As such, we cannot just rely on the police to keep us safe. DPS is too underfunded and undermanned to be able to guarantee the security and safety of everyone on the island. The department is already spread out too thin and they can only do so much with the meager resources they have. The community must take it upon itself to ensure its safety and protection. We cannot remain insular. We have to learn how to watch out for one another and be our brother's keeper—a return to traditional ways when neighbors were still friends, and friends were still family. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

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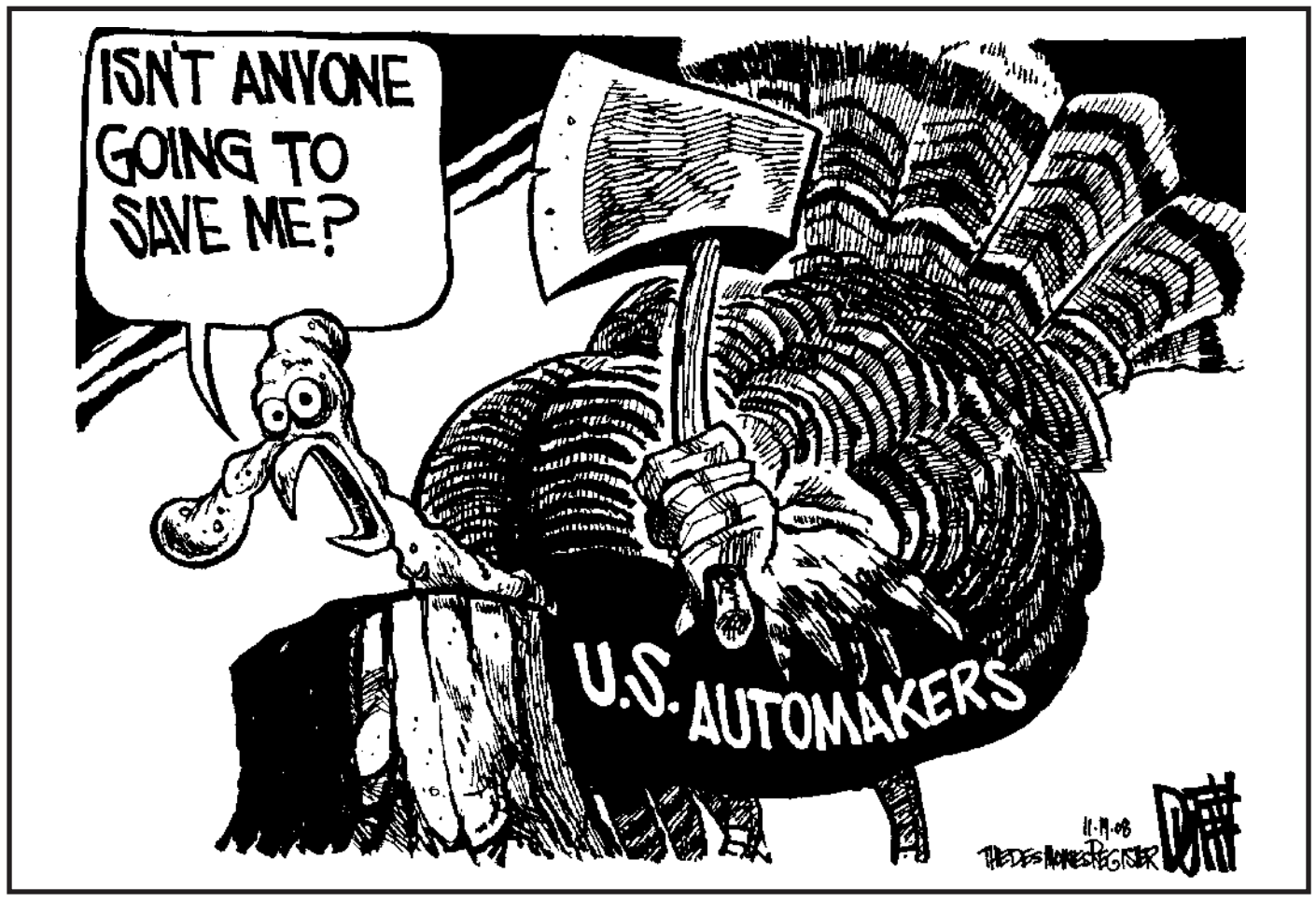


Some unasked and unanswered questions

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Today let's do like the "do do bird" and fly backwards for few minutes. The "do do bird" is a bird that always flies backward to see where it has come from rather than look forward to see where it is flying. This bird reminds me of the quote that those of us who do not learn from the lessons of history are doomed to repeat them.

Let's discuss several unasked and unanswered questions about some of the things we could have done better and why we didn't in the past. By understanding them, the answers might prevent us from repeating the same mistakes.

I learned a long time ago that in business one has to study the reasons for success and for failure. Both sides are equally important. In this manner we learn what went wrong when we fail and what went right when we succeed. Thus we learn to do better tomorrow what we do well or badly today.

Remember the large Japanese tourist market and large Japanese investment we were enjoying several years back. In 1984, when I first started in the tourist business in Saipan, there were only 150,000 guests. In 1997, that number mushroomed to about 700,000. Almost no Koreans, no Chinese and no Russians, only Japanese.

But why has the Japanese tourist today become almost an engendered group? Has anyone ever done a report to find out why they are deserting our islands or where we went wrong? Can anyone answer why have Japanese investors deserted the CNMI when in the past they were so anxious to invest here? What went sour? Did any agency ever do a thorough study to determine why Japanese investors and ourists have turned their back on us? Does anyone care?

Please don't tell me that it is not profitable to fly to Saipan or that the Japanese don't like Saipan. That is too childish an answer. Has anyone prodded for the "real reasons?"

I recall when the Nikko Hotel was being built, there was a big land problem. In fact, the Japanese bluntly told the government at that time that if the land was going to be taken back after they had leased it and already started to built, they would never fly to Saipan. Quickly they were appeased and the hotel was built. From that time on relations became very strained between the Japanese and the government continuing through the development of the La Fiesta. And as we all know, Japan Airlines finally did say goodbye to the CNMI. Did anyone ever try to reconcile the hurt? Was anyone interested to find out how relations could have been improved? Did anyone consider that there would be dire consequences if the hurt were not mended?

And we know the results: the La Fiesta was foolishly bought by our government and never used. In fact the Nikko group even considered leveling La Fiesta because they were so disappointed with our attitude. Now the Nikko Hotel has been bought by UMDA at a ridiculously low price—about half the cost of building it.

Have we forgotten that the Diamond Hotel, Saipan Grand Hotel, the Dai-ichi Hotel—were all Japanese owned. Why did they sell off their investments? Instead of trying to understand and help Japan Airlines, we alienated the investor that was flying the tourists into Saipan to fill the hotels. Didn't anyone see the pattern or even care what was happening? Didn't anyone in the government care what was happening and try to reverse the trend? If I were losing customers like that, I would be very concerned.

Recall the Laalao Golf Course which was built by Japan's largest construction company—Shimizu Construction, the fifth largest constructions firm in the world. I recall the grandiose plans they had for that area. They were going to build condos and other amenities. But what happened? Why did they give up and just sell it off at a great loss?

Recall that Shimizu was the contractor of the Nikko Hotel and a very close business associate of Japan Airlines. Did anyone try to find out why this was happening? Things do not happen in isolation. For every action there is a reaction. The Japanese are a tightly knit group. When one is hurt the others feel it also. The country has often been labeled "Japan Incorporated" because of their interlocking relationship.

Both Japanese parties became disillusioned. We were doing something that they did not like. And we failed to care! Now the golf course has been recently sold to Asiana Airlines for a very cheap price. They plan to develop it into a first class resort and golf course. Are we developing a close working partnership with them, or are we going to act as we did with the Japanese investor?

Currently we are busily courting the Korean and the Chinese tourist markets. Is anyone in the government studying how we are doing in our relationship with them? Is there anybody assigned to the job of working with foreign investors?

Have we forgotten the strong ancestral relationship Japan has had with the islands? In fact some of our people are direct children and descendants of the Japanese who lived here prior to the Second World War. Bill Stewart reminded me recently that this relationship should have been nurtured all along. But he feels, and I agree, it was not but was taken for granted. We have failed to work as partners with the Japanese.

As we encourage the Korean and Chinese tourists to come here, are we considering the age-old relationship between the Japanese, Chinese, and Korean? I lived and worked in Japan for 16 years from 1958 to 1974. As a businessman I learned about the negative feelings the three nations share toward each other. As more and more Chinese and Koreans come to Saipan as tourists, fewer and fewer Japanese will come. As more Korean investors come here, less Japanese will. What are we doing to soothe this negative feeling among

See SOME on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

It's my party, but I don't feel part of it

By SOPHIA A. NELSON
Special to The Washington Post

Sophia A. Nelson, a former Republican congressional staffer and committee counsel, is a lawyer and the editor of politicalintersectionblog.com.

Election night was a bittersweet night for me. Like most Americans, and especially as an African American, I found it deeply moving to watch President-elect Barack Obama and his family—soon to be our nation's first African American first familystride onstage for his victory speech. I welcome the positive role models they'll present to black families and the American public at large.

But as a black Republican, I was chagrined that the political party I've belonged to for 20 years had just suffered a blistering electoral defeat. And that along the way, it had lost 96 percent of the black vote and 67 percent of the Hispanic vote—the worst showing for the Republican Party among minorities in its 150-year history.

After such a devastating loss, Republicans will have to do some retooling. We'll have to decide whether we want to be the party that believes in smaller government, lower taxes and less regulation, or whether we're going to be a litmus-test party that responds only to the demands of social conservatives. But most important, we'll have to confront our most disastrous modern legacy: our poor relationship with black Americans, the very people the party was formed to protect from the expansion of slavery into Kansas and Nebraska in 1854.

That relationship may be lost for generations, thanks to a campaign by Sen. John McCain that seemed to simply concede the black vote. According to one senior aide, McCain had been polling close to 20 percent of the black vote before the primaries ended. But then his "Forgotten America" tour, which started soon after, never seemed to go anywhere. I knew of only one high-level black adviser or spokesperson on his full-time paid campaign staff. The GOP convention was embarrassingly devoid of people of color—among more than 2,000 delegates, only 36 were black.

The problem, former Maryland lieutenant governor Michael Steele told the Washington Times last week, is that party officials "don't give a damn." To them, he said, "outreach means let's throw a cocktail party, find some black folks and Hispanics and women, wrap our arms around them—`See, look at us.' And then we go back to the same old, same old."

"The party has simply not understood the importance of having highly visible black Republican operatives, elected officials and political spokespersons working for it on an ongoing basis," adds an African American who worked for the Republican National Committee during the administration of the first President Bush. "It's not our message as much as it is our messengers that are killing us."

It didn't have to be this way. Only a few years ago, then-RNC chairman Ken Mehlman was aggressively reaching out to the black community. At the NAACP convention in 2005, he apologized for the party's past embrace of racial polarization to gain political advantage. "We were wrong," he said. But Mehlman's efforts, like those of George H.W. Bush and President Gerald R. Ford in the 1970s and, ironically, Lee Atwater in 1989, have never really been followed up on in a way that has successfully made inroads and attracted black voters to the GOP fold.

I'm a Republican because I believe in a republican form of government, in individual liberty, the rule of law and civic virtue. Though I was raised in a staunchly Democratic household in a heavily ethnic suburb in southern New Jersey, I realized in college that my personal values were closer to those of the GOP than the Democrats. I joined the Republican Party in 1988, attracted by George H.W. Bush's message of a "kinder, gentler" America and Jack Kemp's mantra of economic development and urban enterprise zones, which seemed a natural fit for the black community.

That drew in other African Americans as well. "What the GOP of the '80s and '90s stood for was growth, opportunity and prosperity," one black Republican businessman from Virginia told me. "This is what attracted me to the party." But more recently that message, he said, "has gotten swallowed up by a social conservative agenda that seems obsessed with religion, guns and abortion."

I can vouch that being a moderate black Republican isn't easy. My black GOP colleagues and I endure endless ridicule and questioning from other African Americans, including close friends and family members who wonder how we can belong to a political party that is so overwhelmingly white, male, Southern, conservative and seemingly closed to ethnic minorities.

And truth be told, it's sometimes an ill fit. Consider the comments of Shannon Reeves, an African American who started a college Republican chapter at Grambling State University in 1988. In 2003, he wrote an open letter to the party after it was disclosed that in 1999, a newsletter published by the then-vice chairman of the California Republican Party had carried an essay suggesting that the country would have been better off if the South had won the Civil War.

"I am tired of being embarrassed by elected Republican officials who have no sensitivity for issues that alienate whole segments of our population," Reeves wrote. "This embarrassment is different for a black Republican. Not only do we have to sit in rooms and behave professionally towards Republicans who share this ideology, we have to go home to a hostile environment where we are called Uncle Tom and maligned as a sell-out to the community because of our membership in the Republican Party."

With those words Reeves expressed what many of us have felt over the years — and felt again during the recent campaign as we listened to racially coded Republican ads and speeches aimed at scaring working-class and rural white voters about Obama. Reeves expressed why so many of us, including me, ended up, after struggling with our consciences, supporting and voting for the Illinois senator.

After losing our votes this time around, the question is whether the GOP will learn from its failings or continue to compound them. Rumor and e-mail has it that some black conservatives are angry with black Republicans such as Gen. Colin Powell who publicly backed Obama and have issued calls to "throw out" those who did so. But instead of doling out retribution, the party would be better off reflecting on its failings vis-a-vis African Americans, and on the transformation of Abraham Lincoln's Grand Old Party from one that freed the slaves, stood with the suffragists in the early 20th century and helped pass both the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts when Southern Democrats would not yield to a party that now appeals to the old Confederacy and a few mountain states out West.

How can the GOP bring black voters back into the fold? Asked that question on National Public Radio in October, Steele, now a candidate for the RNC chairmanship, offered a simple formula:

"Talk to them. Actually engage the black community where they are. Stop thinking you're going to get by by having a handshake and a photo-op, and actually go and listen to black folks in the issues and the concerns they have and ... make them important to the (party's) overall strategy."

Reeves, who's now national director of state and local development for the RNC, has a similar view. The party, he said, has to "identify, elevate and support blacks who currently work within the party at the local level long before Election Day. We must embrace the talent that the party has now, those who have earned their stripes."

But black Republicans, he stressed, "have a responsibility, too. We need to be effecting change in our own local communities. We need to run for local and state party chairmanships, we need to be there when the platforms are being decided, and when candidates are being selected to run for office."

There are other steps the party can take as it regroups for the future. Republicans need to go to black churches, colleges and other organizations to make the case for the party as a viable option for African Americans. It should mentor and nurture young black Republicans on college campuses, teaching them to canvass, providing paid internships and encouraging them to attend party rules and platform meetings, where real political power resides. It should introduce elected black state and local officials to the national donor base to help them build their coffers for future elections. It should recruit blacks in the Northeast and the Mid-Atlantic and in urban districts, offering a Marshall Plan of sorts to rebuild our cities, encourage entrepreneurship and small business start-ups and promote lower taxes for job creation.

And the party can make better use of black veterans of past administrations, just as it does of white Republicans who get recycled and advanced in each new administration — people like former Pennsylvania Republican committee deputy chairman Renee Amoore; former Atwater aide and George H.W. Bush appointee David Byrd; former George W. Bush appointee Clarence Carter; Sam Cornelius, former chairman of the National Black Republican Council; Thelma Duggin, former special assistant to President Ronald Reagan; and former George H.W. Bush aide Joe Watkins.

Diversity is a good thing. Republicans have to stop allowing ourselves to be accused of voter suppression in every campaign. And let's grow the vote in nontraditional areas the same way Obama did in rural and suburban white America.

In the final analysis, what the American people showed in this election is that they're looking for a more thoughtful and soulful politics. The Republican Party has to find its soul again. Only then will it be ready to lead and govern in a way that attracts a broad spectrum of people to it and makes them want to stay with it for generations to come.

SOME

From Page 10

these nations?

We have had the Tinian Dynasty Casino here for almost 10 years. Has anyone in the government been assigned to work with them and make sure that they are happy? Does anyone care whether they are successful or not? Why hasn't the government made a concerted effort to construction a decent airport facility so that planes could fly to Tinian directly? After 10 years and no action? Weren't promises and assurances made? Instead the casino has had to spent millions of dollars ferrying customers back and forth from Saipan to Tinian. It has also had to buy small aircraft to fly its customers back and forth. Is this being investor friendly? Don't you think other investors are watching this scenario?

We had better begin asking all the unasked and answering the unanswered questions. I can go on and discuss why no one has actively pursued the reason other industries shy away from us, but to what avail? Until we realize that business is competitive and requires a close working relationship between the government and the investor, investors will never flock here regardless of incentives.

A business relationship will only succeed when the parties understand and respect each other. Business is founded on mutual trust. It consists of people working with people. All successful businesses are founded on human trust. The product or service they sell is only secondary. Unfortunately this is not the normal thing here. We seek investors, yet we mistrust them. Too often we begrudge the returns they make on their investments, forgetting the risk they take. Why do we act like this?

I might add that this is the main reason we haven't been able to find a decent savior for the CUC power plant. For some strange reason we distrust all interested parties. We even distrust the United States who, then in turn, distrusts us.

After we have burned off the Japanese, the Koreans, the Chinese, the Russians, the United States, who is left? At times I just want to throw my hands up in the air and scream. We must start asking the unasked questions and answer the unanswered questions, or we are doomed to repeat the mistakes made in the past. Look out! The "do do bird" is right overhead.

A holiday guide to stopping shopping

By JUDITH LEVINE
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

Don't ask, do tell. Inform friends and family that you aren't buying gifts this year. Request that they reciprocate. Trust me, they won't be insulted. They will kiss your feet in relief and gratitude.

■ DIY. Each year, my partner bakes cookies, which we wrap, label ("I Famosi Biscotti di Paolo") and distribute widely. That's just our strategy, though. A Google search of "frugal holiday ideas" yields more than 100,000 bundles of advice, most involving used Christmas cards, white sugar or both. Don't be intimidated. If you can neither glue nor cook, give time—an IOU to babysit a friend's kids or help your brother-in-law clean out the garage. Or give thought. A New York copy editor remembers asking her mother for gift ideas for her father. "You know what Daddy longs for?" Mom replied. "A haiku!"

■ Recycle, reuse, regift. About 6 percent of consumers are planning to shop at flea markets and thrift stores this year, according to research by the consulting firm Deloitte. No doubt you have an equivalent source in the downstairs closet.

■ Forget "value." That same Deloitte poll says that consumers will be heading for "discount/value department stores, warehouse clubs, dollar stores, outlet stores, and off-price stores." But why buy junk that's going to break in a week? One or two well-made presents per recipient will cost less and last longer.

■ Moralize later. You may be trying to instill non-materialistic values in your family along with fiscal discipline. But the holidays are no time for negative reinforcement. You don't have to buy your kids the moon, but a few well-considered gifts will not turn them into the Hilton sisters.

■ Freeload. Some of your friends are still flush. Take advantage. If the party is big enough, no one will notice that you've shown up empty-handed and are now monopolizing the pancetta-wrapped mushroom caps. Your hosts want your company; that's why they invited you. They do not need another bottle of mediocre Merlot.

■ Save your marriage. According to Rasmussen, almost half of men find shopping "unpleasant." If the emotional weather outside is frightful, stay home and mull his cider.

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼79°	▲86° ▼80°	▲87° ▼79°

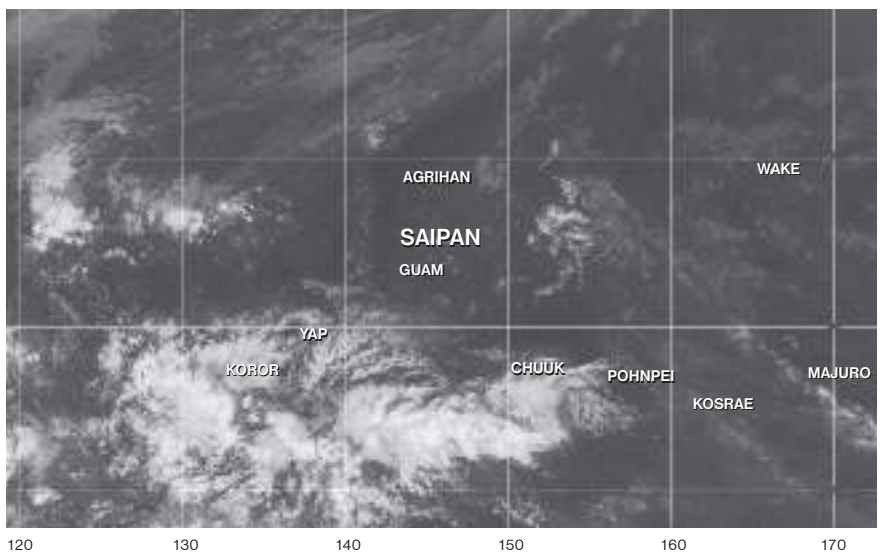
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲86	▼79
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼78
Yap	Showers	▲88	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲88	▼81
Kosrae	Showers	▲88	▼78
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲77	▼61
Beijing	Cloudy	▲48	▼28
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲73	▼66
Honolulu	Showers	▲79	▼72
London	Showers	▲45	▼36
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy	▲72	▼54
Manila	Showers	▲87	▼76
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲68	▼50
Miami	Showers	▲78	▼65
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲46	▼39
Osaka	Rain	▲63	▼47
Paris	Showers	▲41	▼28
Pusan	Showers	▲54	▼37
Rome	Rain	▲53	▼48
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲51	▼34
San Francisco	Mostly Cloudy	▲63	▼52
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲54	▼36
Tokyo	Showers	▲54	▼49
Washington, DC	Showers	▲49	▼36

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:15PM, SUNDAY, NOV. 23, 2008
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line extends southwestward from 25N156E to beyond 130E at 17N. Scattered showers are along and up to 300 miles northwest of this boundary. Convergence around a low-level circulation southwest of Palau and southeast of Mindanao of the Philippines is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between the equator and 7N from 135E to 139E and from the equator to 1N from 130E to 132E. Low-level convergence east of a weak surface trough running from 3143E to 7N144E is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms from the trough axis eastward to 155E. This area is south of Chuuk. An upper-level low east to southeast of Wake Island is centered at 15N175E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are within 150 miles of a line from 19N176E to 14N180E. A surface trough running northeastward from about 4N173E to beyond 8N175E is producing scattered showers between 2N and 9N from 173E to beyond 180. This area is east of Majuro.

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
05:59AM Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
11:12AM Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
04:25PM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:23AM	5:44 PM
Tuesday	6:24AM	5:44 PM
Wednesday	6:24AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:25AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:25AM	5:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:14AM	3:07PM
Tuesday	4:04AM	3:46PM
Wednesday	4:55AM	4:27PM
Thursday	5:47AM	5:12 PM
Friday	6:40AM	6:00 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 19, 2008

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota

CO9597	11:50am	12:25pm	1,7

Saipan-Guam

CO9317	5:00am	5:50am	Daily
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
CO9597	11:50am	1:20pm	1,7 via Rota
CO9601	12:30pm	1:20pm	2,3,4,5,6
CO9603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
CO9605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Narita

NW 099	5:00am	7:40am	Daily
NW 078	8:25am	1:30pm	2,3,4,5,6,7
NW 075	4:55pm	7:30pm	Daily

Saipan-Osaka

NW 083	4:30pm	7:20pm	Daily

Saipan-Nagoya

NW 078	8:25am	11:05am	Daily

Saipan-Incheon

OZ 604	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ 604	2:40am	6:30am	2,3,4,5,6,7
OZ 606	3:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

Saipan-Busan

OZ 608	3:50am	7:20am	1,4,5,7

Saipan-Shanghai

FM 844	2:50am	5:40am	2,6

Rota-Guam

CO 9597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1,7

Guam-Manila

CO 893	5:50pm	9:10pm	3,5 via Koror
CO 933	8:00pm	9:40pm	Daily
PR 111	6:00am	7:50am	1,2,4,6,7

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan

CO 9598	3:25am	4:00am	5,6

Guam-Saipan

CO 9316	2:30am	3:20am	1,2,3,4,7
CO9598	2:30am	4:00am	5,6 via Rota
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
CO9600	10:20am	11:10am	Daily
CO9602	2:00pm	2:50pm	Daily
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

Narita-Saipan

NW 076	10:15am	2:40pm	Daily
NW 077	6:25pm	1:25am+1	2,3,4,5,6,7
NW 100	8:45pm	1:15am+1	Daily

Osaka-Saipan

NW 084	10:40am	3:10pm	Daily

Nagoya-Saipan

NW 077	9:00pm	1:25am+1	Daily

Incheon-Saipan

OZ 605	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ 603	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ 603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1,2,3,4,5,6

Busan-Saipan

OZ 607	9:30pm	2:40am+1	3,4,6,7

Shanghai-Saipan

FM 843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1,5

Guam-Rota

CO 9598	2:30am	3:00am	5,6

Manila-Guam

CO 892	10:10pm	5:30am+1	3,5 via Koror
CO 934	11:10pm	4:40am+1	Daily
PR 110	10:10pm	4:00am+1	1,3,5,6,7

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
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- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
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Business

Investor fear remains deep despite 1-day rally

NEW YORK (AP)—Since the Nov. 4 election, investors have been abandoning stocks in a kind of slow-motion crash that experts say underlines just how anxious they are about what is likely to be a long and deep recession.

Even after a late-day rally on Friday, the benchmark Standard & Poor's 500 index has plunged 20 percent since the election. That more than wiped out the index's 18 percent gain in the six trading days ahead of the balloting as optimism grew that Barack Obama would be elected president.

Analysts aren't blaming Obama specifically for the post-election hangover. Rather, they peg it to growing fears that the Bush Administration and Congress are fumbling the $700 billion bailout plan and the weakened economy's impact on financial stocks—highlighted by the plunge in shares of Citigroup Inc. to below $4 a share.

"You can almost hear people yelling, 'Get me out at any price,' " said Al Goodman, chief market strategist at Wachovia Securities. "It's the highest level of fear and depression in my 45 years as a student of the market."

Market experts define a crash as a decline of 20 percent over a single day or several days. Over seven trading days that ended Oct. 9, the Dow lost 22 percent.

This month, the S&P 500 skidded more than 25 percent in the 12 trading days after the election before a bounceback on Friday narrowed the loss to 20 percent.

All told, stocks have lost a stunning $2.6 trillion since Nov. 4, as measured by the Dow Jones Wilshire 5000 index, which reflects the value of nearly all U.S. stocks.

Obama economic plan aims for 2.5M new jobs by 2011

WASHINGTON (AP)—President-elect Barack Obama promoted an economic plan Saturday he said would create or save 2.5 million jobs by spending billions of dollars to rebuild roads and bridges and modernize schools while developing alternative energy sources and more efficient cars.

"These aren't just steps to pull ourselves out of this immediate crisis. These are the long-term investments in our economic future that have been ignored for far too long," Obama said in the weekly Democratic radio address.

The goal is to get the ambitious plan quickly through Congress, with help from both parties, after Obama takes office Jan. 20. The plan, which envisions those new jobs by January 2011, is "big enough to meet the challenges we face," he said. The president-elect said he has asked his economic advisers to flesh out the recovery plan—one "big enough to meet the challenges we face. ... We'll be working out the details in the weeks ahead, but it will be a two-year, nationwide effort to jump-start job creation in America and lay the foundation for a strong and growing economy."

The plan comes at a time that the economy is continuing a downward spiral after hundreds of billions have already been spent trying to stabilize markets and restore confidence—with little success so far.

Obama's radio address talked about the goal of job creation and said his economic plan "will mean 2.5 million more jobs by January of 2011." The Obama Web site on Saturday said his plan will "save or create" 2.5 million jobs. Obama spokesman Robert Gibbs confirmed later Saturday that the plan "will save and create" the 2.5 million jobs.

In his address, Obama noted the growing evidence the country is "facing an economic crisis of historic proportions" and said he was pleased Congress passed an extension of unemployment benefits this past week.

AP

President-elect Barack Obama and his adviser Valerie Jarrett decide on lunch during a stop at Manny's Coffee Shop and Deli in Chicago, Friday, Nov. 21, 2008.

Carmakers' crisis deepens Detroit's despair

DETROIT (AP)—While U.S. automakers wait for federal action on loans they say are key to their survival, former restaurant worker Richard Thomas is waiting on his own bailout—odd jobs that barely pay the bills.

"Every single thing that goes on in my household, depends on what I make," Thomas says as he helps a friend fix the water pump on a rusting Dodge van. "If something doesn't happen for me for two or three weeks, then I'm in a hole."

It's not just a hole facing General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler LLC. It's a gaping chasm that threatens not only their own futures, but the livelihoods of thousands of Detroit families who depend on the struggling auto industry.

That made it personal when this past week's congressional hearings on whether to grant the automakers' request for $25 billion in loans turned into a confrontation, partly because some of the auto leaders took private jets to the Washington hearings.

"Everybody's got their own personal agenda," said Raj Dhanasri, a 30-year-old marketing contractor for GM. "We'd expect you to be smart enough to understand the pains of not just your town or city."

The country's leaders need to look past mistakes by GM, Ford and Chrysler and focus on what's best for people, said restaurant owner Anton Nikollbibaj.

The Detroit automakers employ nearly a quarter-million workers, and more than 730,000 other workers produce materials and parts that go into cars. About 1 million more people work in dealerships nationwide.

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Nation

Obama names longtime spokesman Gibbs press chief

WASHINGTON (AP)—President-elect Barack Obama on Saturday named longtime spokesman Robert Gibbs as White House press secretary and reached outside his inner circle for the post of White House communications director.

The director of communications will be Ellen Moran, the current executive director of the Washington group EMILY's List, an active supporter of Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton during the Democratic presidential primary. Moran will join a team of longtime close advisers who will work closely with Obama on a daily basis.

Obama's choice of Moran was a surprise compared to Gibbs, who went to work for Obama's Senate campaign in 2004 and was communications director while Obama was in the Senate. Moran's deputy in the White House will be Dan Pfeiffer, currently the communications director for Obama's presidential transition team.

"These individuals will fill essential roles, and bring a breadth and depth of experience that can help our administration advance prosperity and security for the American people," Obama said in a statement. "This dedicated and impressive group of public servants includes longtime advisers and a talented new addition to our team, and together we will work to serve our country and meet the challenges of this defining moment in history."

Moran will head the team in charge of getting Obama's message out. As the head of EMILY's, which backs Democratic female candidates who support abortion rights, Moran has said Obama would have to work hard to win over women supporters who felt let down after Clinton's historic presidential bid fell short.

"This was the longest primary campaign in the history of the Democratic party," Moran told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette in August. "Given the closeness of the outcome, the length of the race and the loyalty supporters felt to their candidates—when you have that level of investment, yes, you're going to have disappointment when you're on the losing side."

After Obama secured the Democratic nomination, EMILY's quickly moved to back his candidacy and Moran criticized GOP vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin as being out of step with issues that most concern women.

AP

In this June 5, 2008 file photo, Barack Obama's campaign senior adviser Robert Gibbs, speaks with reporters while in flight to Chicago.

Father appalled by virtual audience to son's death

MIAMI (AP)—The father of a college student whose suicide was broadcast live over a webcam said Saturday he was appalled by the virtual audience that egged on his son and called for tougher regulation of Internet sites.

Abraham Biggs Sr. said those who watched and the Web site operators share some blame in his 19-year-old son's death.

"I think they are all equally wrong," he said. "It's a person's life that we're talking about. And as a human being, you don't watch someone in trouble and sit back and just watch."

Police found Abraham Biggs Jr. dead in his father's bed Wednesday, 12 hours after he first declared on the Web site for bodybuilders that he planned to take his own life. He took a fatal drug overdose in front of an Internet audience. Although some viewers contacted the Web site to notify police, authorities did not reach his house in time.

Biggs, who has said he was at work during the episode, said he had not known about his son's online presence.

"I think after this incident and probably other incidents that have occurred in the past, they all point to some kind of regulation is necessary," Biggs said. "I think it is wrong to have this happen for hours without any action being taken from the people in charge. Where were they all the time?"

The younger Biggs posted a link from the Web site to Justin.tv, which allows users to broadcast live with their webcams.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

To: Homesteaders

The Department of Public Lands Homestead Division will be conducting their monthly site inspections on November 26, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Areas to be inspected will be As Matuis, Kagman, Dandan and Koblerville homesteads.

Thank you

Homestead Division

JFK anniversary marked at Dallas shooting site

DALLAS (AP)—About 500 people crowded Saturday into the plaza where John F. Kennedy was shot 45 years ago, all agreeing it was right to remember a pivotal moment in American history, even if they didn't all believe the official line.

People stood shoulder to shoulder and bowed their heads during a moment of silence at 12:30 p.m. Some hawked JFK memorabilia or pitched conspiracy theories to visitors. Others offered firsthand accounts of their memories of the killing.

Visiting from Pipersville, Penn., 66-year-old Barbara Koenig said coming to the site was something she needed to do.

"I remember the day of the assassination, and I've always wanted to visit this site," she said. "It's just an eerie feeling. It kind of takes you back 45 years to what you were doing and thinking about the whole tragedy of the affair. I burst into tears (then). In fact, I'm ready to cry now."

Nearby, street vendors held out commemorative newspapers hoping would-be customers would buy them. One person roamed the crowd with a sign questioning whether it was a lone gunman who killed Kennedy or several.

A group of men who wore black suits, matching ties and earpieces stood silent and appeared to guard a large black banner behind them.

The day Kennedy was assassinated is one people should always remember, but its truth still has not been entirely revealed, argued John Judge, head of the Coalition On Political Assassinations, a Washington-based organization that researches political assassinations.

ACROSS THE NATION

Astronauts step out for longest, hardest spacewalk

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—Spacewalking astronauts completed almost all of the greasy repairs on a gummed-up joint at the international space station on Saturday, leaving just a few chores behind for another day. As spacewalk No. 3 was getting under way 225 miles up, a new recycling system for converting urine into drinking water broke down again. It was the third day in a row that the urine processor inexplicably shut down, and it appeared to be the same kind of sluggish motor trouble seen before. Engineers on the ground scrambled to figure out what might be wrong. The problem could jeopardize NASA's plan to return recycled water to Earth aboard space shuttle Endeavour next weekend. The $154 million water recycling system, delivered a week ago by the space shuttle, is essential for allowing more astronauts to live on the space station next year.

Shots in Wash. mall after argument prove fatal

TUKWILA, Wash. (AP)—Shots erupted in a packed Seattle-area shopping mall Saturday after an apparent argument between a gunman and two other young men, killing one of the men, creating panic among shoppers and sending police on a store-to-store search for the shooter, authorities said. The Southcenter Mall in Tukwila was locked down as police tried to find the gunman. Officer Mike Murphy, a police spokesman, told The Associated Press there were "thousands" of shoppers at the mall when the shooting took place just before 3:45 p.m. The two injured men were taken to Seattle's Harborview Medical Center, where one of them died. Murphy said he did not know the condition of the other victim.

The gunman used a pistol and fired multiple shots, Murphy said. At least two other people were detained for questioning, he said.

Nude pics in phone lost at McDonald's get online

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. (AP)—Here's some food for thought: If you have nude photos of your wife on your cell phone, hang onto it. Phillip Sherman of Arkansas learned that lesson after he left his phone behind at a McDonald's restaurant and the photos ended up online. Now he and his wife, Tina, are suing the McDonald's Corp., the franchise owner and the store manager. The suit was filed Friday and seeks a jury trial and $3 million in damages for suffering, embarrassment and the cost of having to move to a new home. The suit says that Phillip Sherman left the phone the Fayetteville store in July and that employees promised to secure it until he returned.

Asia

Economy, not rights, rules the new China-US world

BEIJING (AP)—As a dangerous confrontation flared between China and Taiwan in 1996, Bill Clinton deployed the Seventh Fleet to deter the two rivals from going to war. Five years later, when a U.S. spy plane collided with a Chinese fighter, George W. Bush faced a prolonged international crisis. Meanwhile, human rights and democracy in China were a perennial hot-button issue.

Now it's Barack Obama's turn to deal with the China challenge, and this time, it's all about the money. As the global financial system teeters, China, with its $1.9 trillion in foreign reserves and slowing but still strong economy, offers a potential lifeline.

The crisis that Obama is inheriting has pushed aside the old points of contention and underscored how profoundly the power equation between Washington and Beijing has changed.

China now owns over half-a-trillion dollars in U.S. government bonds, more than any other country, and Washington needs Beijing to continue buying them to help finance the national debt and the $700 billion financial industry bailout.

And while China's economy is heavily dependent on exports to the U.S., it is also a growing market for U.S. products, making trade retaliation—long a threat wielded solely by Washington—more of a two-way street.

"The power shift in China-U.S. relations is making them more interdependent," said Cheng Xiaohe, an international relations scholar at Beijing's Renmin University. "This next president will need to exercise greater caution."

When Clinton first ran for the White House, he made human rights an issue, accusing then President George Bush of "coddling" the communist dictatorship. But during his presidency, the administration moved to uncouple human rights from trade privileges - a milestone in normalizing ties between the two powers.

During Bush's presidency, as Chinese exports boomed, China's currency regime and trade surplus hit $163.3 billion in 2007, becoming an increasingly fractious political issues, even as the question of human rights was moving to the fringes of the public agenda.

China rejects UN report on torture as 'untrue'

BEIJING (AP)—The Chinese Foreign Ministry on Sunday rejected a U.N. panel's report alleging that police in China used torture, calling the accusations "untrue and slanderous" and saying some panel members were prejudiced against Beijing.

The U.N. Committee against Torture said it was "deeply concerned about the continued allegations, corroborated by numerous Chinese legal sources, of the routine and widespread use of torture and ill-treatment of suspects in police custody, especially to extract confessions or information to be used in criminal proceedings," in a 15-page report released Friday in Geneva.

Qin Gang, a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, said some members of the committee were "prejudiced" against China, had ignored evidence presented by the Chinese government on the issue of torture and were citing unverified or fabricated information.

"They put untrue and slanderous comments into the committee's final conclusion, which lacks justice and professional objectiveness, against which China firmly opposes," Qin said, according to a statement on the Foreign Ministry's Web site.

Jetliner plot suspect believed killed in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP)—A British citizen linked to a plot to blow up jetliners flying across the Atlantic was believed killed Saturday by an apparent U.S. missile attack on an al-Qaida redoubt near the Afghan border, Pakistani officials said.

If confirmed, the death of Rashid Rauf would bolster U.S. claims that missile strikes on extremist strongholds in northwestern Pakistan are protecting the West against another Sept. 11-style terrorist attack.

Pakistan's government confirmed that Rauf and a Saudi militant called Abu Zubair al-Masri were the apparent targets of the missile in North Waziristan in the restive tribal region that lies next to Afghanistan.

But Information Minister Sherry Rehman also reiterated the government's complaint that missile attacks, apparently launched from unmanned aircraft, are fanning anti-Americanism and Islamic extremism tearing at both Pakistan and Afghanistan.

"It would have been better if our authorities had been alerted for local action," Rehman told The Associated Press. "Drone incursions create a strong backlash."

North Waziristan is one of the tribal areas where Taliban fighters operate out of bases to stage attacks across the border into Afghanistan and lies in the rugged frontier region where al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden may be hiding.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Tibetan exiles stick with 'middle way'—for now

DHARMSALA, India (AP)—Tibetan exiles decided Saturday against pushing for independence for the Himalayan region, but for the first time in decades said they will take up that radical course if China refuses to grant their homeland autonomy soon. A pivotal meeting ended with hundreds of Tibetan exile leaders from around the globe reaffirming support for the Dalai Lama's path of measured compromise—a push for autonomy called "the middle way"—but also said it is time to end talks with Beijing. "Looking at the doings of China in recent times, we will not send the envoys for further contact," Dolma Gyari, deputy speaker of the Tibetan parliament-in-exile, told reporters after the meeting. She said that "there was a majority for the middle way" and called for the exile government to press on with that approach. But the leaders also vowed that if moderation doesn't produce results soon, they will call for independence—a dramatic break with a decades-long conciliatory approach to Beijing.

Nepal's Buddha boy returns to jungle to meditate

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—A Nepalese teenager revered by many as a reincarnation of Buddha has returned to the jungle to meditate after emerging for less than two weeks, officials said Saturday Ram Bahadur Bamjan, 18, reappeared on Nov. 10 after several months of meditation to bless thousands of his followers, speaking to them on at least two occasions He made his last appearance on Friday and then returned to the jungle to meditate, said Biswo Prakash Newpane, a government administrator in the area. It was not clear when he would return again His followers lined up near the jungle of Ratanpur, about 100 miles south of Katmandu, to be blessed by Bamjan. He tapped the believers on their forehead but did not speak to them individually The followers believe he has been meditating without food and water since he was first spotted in the jungles of southern Nepal in 2005. Believers say he spent months without moving, sitting with his eyes closed beneath a tree.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
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DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES

AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the Design and Construction of the Saipan International Airport Emergency Power Upgrade on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. It is the intent of CPA to expedite complete construction of this project.

A CD-Rom containing the scope of work and proposal package will be available on Wednesday, November 5, 2008 at the Office of the Acting Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS ($100.00)** for each CD-Rom. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held for this project at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, at the CPA Airport Conference Room. Please be advised that attendance to this pre-proposal conference is mandatory. All questions prior to the pre-proposal conference must be submitted in writing to Mr. Ignacio L. Perez, Acting Executive Director or faxed to (670) 234-5962, no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, November 10, 2008.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Saipan International Airport Emergency Power Upgrade, Design/Build Services". One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2008,** to the Office of the Acting Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

The offerer shall submit with their proposal the following:

1. Letter of interest
2. Project Approach (detailing how the work will be accomplished inclusive of layout and one line diagram.)
3. D-B Construction Team
4. Related past project performance (include commendations or certifications if available)
5. Design and Construction Timeline
6. Available resources to accomplish the project
7. Cost proposal (in itemized SOW format)
8. Valid CNMI Business License

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications which should include résumés and experience of personnel that will be directly in charge of the project. Note that either party of the design consultant/contractor team that submits a proposal cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different design/build teams.

Project approach, timeline and cost must be within the parameters of the established Statement of Work (SOW). Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, will be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror's proposal package.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1.	Total cost for design and construction	30%
2.	Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff	10%
3.	Experience of the firm on similar or related projects	15%
4.	D-B Construction time frame	25%
5.	Project Approach	20%

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals. Award of a contract is contingent upon prior approval from FAA.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a U.S. Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax. Proposers shall also include performance and payment bonds premium (payment and performance issued by a U.S. treasury listed bonding company) required for this project. Performance bond shall be extended to cover the warranty period of the project.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MR. IGNACIO L. PEREZ
Acting Executive Director

Date: November 11, 2008

World

APEC leaders say no to protectionism, yes to Doha

LIMA, Peru (AP)—Leaders who oversee half the world's economy pledged Saturday to avoid protectionism but shied away from any new proposals on the financial crisis because of somebody who wasn't there: U.S. President-elect Barack Obama.

The 21 leaders endorsed last weekend's agreement by major world economies to resist domestic pressures to protect industries, while ensuring that small and medium-sized companies have enough credit to stay afloat.

"We strongly support the Washington Declaration and will refrain within the next 12 months from raising new barriers to investment or to trade in goods and services (and from) imposing new export restrictions," leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum said in a joint declaration.

They also pledged to reach agreement next month on the outlines of a World Trade Organization pact that collapsed in July after seven years of negotiations. Concern over the global financial crisis injected new urgency into the so-called Doha round of trade talks.

The leaders called for greater APEC participation in the International Monetary Fund and other multilateral lenders. Japan said last week it was ready to lend up to $100 billion to the IMF, but China has so far resisted entreaties to dig into its $1.9 trillion in reserves.

Delegates said, however, that there was little incentive to propose more concrete action without the support of Obama, who takes office in January and did not send representatives to Lima.

"The next U.S. administration must assume leadership in a very firm manner—not just for Americans but for the whole world," Mexican President Felipe Calderon said in a speech before heading into closed-door meetings that produced the resolution.

Even people who work for the White House's outgoing occupant, George W. Bush, acknowledged that tough issues such as a stalled U.S.-South Korea free-trade agreement would likely have to wait.

AP

Leaders of the countries that belong to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC, meet for a summit in Lima, Saturday, Nov. 22, 2008.

Iraqi lawmakers vote on US security pact Wednesday

BAGHDAD (AP)—The Iraqi parliament will vote Wednesday on a pact that would allow American troops to stay in Iraq for three more years, but the government's hopes of winning a wide margin of approval to ensure the deal's legitimacy appeared to be fading.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and his top ministers struggled Saturday to rally support for the pact, arguing that Iraqi security forces aren't ready to stand on their own. A U.N. mandate for the American troop presence expires Dec. 31, and U.S. military operations would have to stop immediately without a new mandate or the legal cover of the pact being considered by parliament.

The defense minister warned that losing the protection of the U.S. Navy could even bring piracy to Persian Gulf waters like that preying on international shipping off the African nation of Somalia.

The vote originally was planned for Monday, but Parliament Speaker Mahmoud al-Mashhadani announced the new date after six hours of speeches by lawmakers closed out this week's debate on the pact.

Al-Mashhadani said the vote could be held earlier than Wednesday if the Shiite-led governing coalition and other political groups reached an understanding, but that seemed unlikely after days of contentious debate and even some scuffling among legislators.

The speaker, a Sunni Arab, rated chances for the pact's passage at "50-50."

That assessment was a harsh one for al-Maliki, who needs a broad consensus. Failure to achieve that could deepen antagonism among Iraq's political factions, which are heavily based on ethnic and sectarian loyalties.

The security pact emerged from nine months of tough talks between U.S. and Iraqi negotiators, and the Iraqi Cabinet approved it a week ago on the grounds that it provided a clear timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. forces after more than five years of war.

Abbas calls on Obama to implement Arab peace plan

NABLUS, West Bank (AP)—Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas on Saturday urged Barack Obama to get involved in Mideast peacemaking efforts immediately after becoming the U.S. president in January.

Abbas, who spoke at an economic conference in the West Bank town of Nablus, also asked Obama to endorse a pan-Arab peace initiative that offers full peace with Israel in return for its withdrawal from the West Bank, Gaza and parts of Jerusalem.

The "Arab Peace Initiative" was first proposed in 2002 by dozens of Arab countries that do not have ties with Israel. It requires Israel to leave the lands it captured in the 1967 Mideast War.

"We ask Obama to become immediately involved in the peace process, and to adopt the Arab initiative," Abbas said.

Abbas' call to Obama came after he appealed directly to Israelis by taking out full-page Hebrew-language newspaper ads Thursday that said the Arab initiative would bring peace to the region.

Israeli Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni, the chief negotiator with the Palestinians over the past year, has welcomed the plan as a positive gesture, but says its positions on key issues such as final borders, the status of Jerusalem and the fate of Palestinian refugees are unacceptable.

"Instead of living in an island of peace it will live in an ocean of peace," he said.

However, a year of negotiations between Palestinians and Israel has not brought tangible results.

Abbas said Saturday that Israel's actions, such as continued construction of settlements and the West Bank separation barrier, contradict Israel's declared willingness to make peace.

"These acts truly make one wonder whether they (the Israelis) mean peace or not," he said. "Those who want peace don't do this. They don't build a wall or a settlement in our throats ... We are ready to stretch out our hands in peace, but all of these acts leave hatred in one's soul."

Zimbabwe rejects Carter, Annan, Machel

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP)—Zimbabwe has refused to let Kofi Annan, Jimmy Carter and a South African human rights advocate visit the impoverished country for a humanitarian mission, the three said Saturday.

The former U.N. secretary general, the ex-U.S. president and rights advocate Graca Machel had planned to assess the southern African country's needs. They are members of The Elders, a group formed by former South African President Nelson Mandela to foster peace and tackle world conflicts.

Annan said no official reason had been given for the refusal, but Zimbabwe's state-run Herald newspaper reported that the group had been asked to "come at a later date" to accommodate the crop-planting season. It quoted an unnamed source as saying they were seen as antagonistic toward Zimbabwe's government.

Zimbabweans are suffering from disease and hunger while political crisis over a power-sharing government occupies its politicians. A current cholera outbreak has killed nearly 300 people in Zimbabwe, the United Nations said.

But the three were told Friday night by former South African President Thabo Mbeki, who is mediating the political crisis, that efforts to secure travel visas for the a two-day trip had failed.

"We are very disappointed that the government of Zimbabwe would not permit us to come in, would not cooperate," former U.S. President Carter said at a news conference in Johannesburg.

It was the first time the 2002 Nobel Peace laureate has been denied permission to carry out a mission in any country, he said.

WORLD BRIEFS

Witnesses: Large meteor streaks across Canada sky

SASKATOON, Saskatchewan (AP)—Scientists say they hope to find remnants of a meteor that brilliantly lit up the sky before falling to earth in western Canada. University of Calgary planetary scientist Alan Hildebrand called it one of the largest meteors visible in the country in the last decade. Widely broadcast video images showed what appeared to be a speeding fireball Thursday night over Saskatoon that became larger and brighter before disappearing as it neared the ground. Hildebrand said Friday that he received about 300 email reports from witnesses. "It would be something like a billion-watt light bulb," said Hildebrand, who also coordinates meteor sightings with the Canadian Space Agency. Tammy Evans was wakened by her 10-year-old daughter who ran into the bedroom. "She said there was a flash of light, the house shook twice and it sounded like dinosaurs were walking," Evans said.

Rome's chaos and crime meets its would-be Giuliani

ROME (AP)—Gianni Alemanno is keeping his law-and-order promises, sweeping prostitutes off streets, arming traffic cops and pushing for immigrants who commit crimes to be deported. But Rome's mayor is as hard to get a handle on as the city he governs. He's a tough guy who is into meditation; a Rudy Giuliani fan who drones in bureaucratese; a former neo-Fascist street protester who champions organic food; an Italian who, in a nation of soccer fanatics, is indifferent to the game. And he's a right-winger—the first to be elected mayor of the Eternal City since World War II. His pledge to tackle rampant corruption and pollution, with zero tolerance for street crime, goes down well with Romans. But critics are alarmed by his past in the neo-Fascist movement and the xenophobic nerve he touches by blaming foreigners for crime and threatening to kick out immigrants who break the law. When some of his supporters flashed Fascist salutes during his victory rally in April at City Hall plaza atop the Capitoline Hill, the critics were not reassured.

Saudi royals shot in arm for home of Mayo Clinic

ROCHESTER, Minn. (AP)—Rochester officials say members of Saudi Arabia's royal family spent enough during a visit to the Mayo Clinic to give the area's economy a shot in the arm. City officials say Saudi Arabian King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz arrived in the Minnesota city on Nov. 15 for a checkup at the Mayo Clinic and was accompanied by at least five princes and hundreds of others. The king left Wednesday, but some members of his group remain in Rochester. Rochester Convention and Visitors Bureau executive director Brad Jones says a conservative estimate of the royal family's spending is up to $1.5 million. Officials say that should offset the area's economic woes. Jones calls that a "great shot in the arm."

Health & Fitness

Burning lots of calories? That could be an elliptical illusion

By HOWARD SCHNEIDER
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

A little over a year ago, I was killing time on an elliptical machine at a local gym, using a wristwatch heart rate monitor to track the workout. The monitor had settings for my age, weight, sex and height, and kept a running count of the estimated number of calories used.

The machine's onboard electronics also provided a calorie estimate. After an hour, the discrepancy between the two was striking: According to the watch, I had used about 600 calories. The machine had me cracking 800.

Since then, I have intermittently repeated the comparison on different types of machines from different manufacturers and using heart rate monitors from different companies. The result is typically the same: The machines come out with a higher calorie count than the heart rate monitors, and the difference is often substantial.

Which to believe? Does it matter?

It is easy to get hung up in the numbers, but ultimately any of the available methods for calculating calories should be considered estimates. Short of going to a lab or clinic, the best you'll get is a sense of magnitude, whether you are using a high-end sports watch, a machine at the local gym or a manual formula (see sidebar).

A calorie is a measure of energy: When you read a food label, the number of calories reflects the amount of energy that is packed in there. Once that food is in your body, the potential energy gets unleashed through a few processes, but the dominant mechanism involves the use of oxygen to break down carbohydrates, fats and (sometimes) even protein into other chemicals. Though different fuel sources require different amounts of oxygen and produce different amounts of energy, the boiled-down version is that each liter of oxygen reflects the body's use of about five calories.

So to really count calories it's necessary to measure the amount of oxygen used—hence the crazy mask they hook you up to during exercise and stress tests. That's hardly practical at the gym.

But there is a good proxy for measuring oxygen use: your heart. As the body demands more oxygen during exercise, the heart beats faster to increase the supply.

How heart rate relates to oxygen consumption varies from person to person. Age, weight, sex, body composition, fitness level and other factors all play a role. Drawing from population models and their own research, the companies that manufacture heart rate monitors have developed formulas that couple heart rate with those different variables and massage it all into an estimate of calorie usage.

The onboard calculators found on treadmills, elliptical trainers and other devices use basically the same approach. Depending on the machine, however, they typically don't allow you to enter as much information about yourself as a heart monitor. The machine might ask for your weight and age, for example, but not your sex or an estimate of your fitness level. Fewer variables mean a rougher guess.

In addition, the most important parameter of all, your heart rate, may well be missing from the equation.

Though exercise equipment typically has the capacity to measure heart rate, that requires the user to either keep a steady grip on a pair of electrodes—impractical, particularly for running on a treadmill—or wear a chest strap that sends a signal to a wireless sensor.

Equipment makers can't assume that will happen, said Bob Quast, vice president of brand management for Life Fitness, one of the major exercise equipment companies. So, at least in Life Fitness's case, the company builds formulas for estimating calories that are independent of the user's heart rate. The company does in-house studies using lab equipment to measure the calories burned in different types and intensities of exercise among people of different ages, weights and sexes.

That information is built into the formulas used on the machines.

"It is accurate for the general population between 5 and 10 percent," Quast said. "The key is to keep going back to the same product and use it over time" to compare different workouts.

A number of studies have concluded that exercise machines typically err on the high side. One paper presented at an American College of Sports Medicine conference found the calorie counts on one brand of elliptical machine to be about 26 percent higher than lab-based estimates of the calories used. In their textbook Exercise Physiology, physiologists Sharon Plowman and Denise L. Smith cited several similar studies, including one that found error ranges of between 39 percent and 79 percent.

"It is best to interpret the console values for caloric expenditure as an approximation rather than an absolute," the two wrote, "and to accept that the approximation is probably high."

That doesn't mean the gadgetry isn't without value. Hop on the same model of treadmill each day, for example, and if it says you used 500 calories one afternoon and 550 on the next, that's progress.

If a more precise estimate is important to you, then a heart rate monitor might be a good investment. These are particularly helpful if you are just starting out and learning to gauge your effort level, and there are models to help with more-advanced training as well.

But keep in mind: It is still an estimate. Your own sense of how hard you are working will be, in many ways, just as helpful.

In other words, listen to your heart.

Another way to count calories

By HOWARD SCHNEIDER
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

You can get a rough estimate of the calories you will expend in many activities with a simple formula developed by physiologists using a yardstick known as the Metabolic Equivalent, or MET. A single MET represents the amount of energy used at rest. The University of South Carolina's Arnold School of Public Health maintains what it calls the Compendium of Physical Activities, which gives the MET value of an array of sports, exercises and everyday tasks. It's basically a list of how much extra energy gets used if you run a 10-minute mile or spend time raking leaves.

The list can be downloaded from prevention.sph.sc.edu/tools/compendium.htm.

To estimate calorie usage, find your activity (or the closest thing to it) on the list and multiply its MET value by your weight in kilograms. For example, take a woman who weighs 124 pounds (about 56 kilograms) and uses a stationary bicycle at moderate effort, which has a MET value of 7. Multiply 7 times 56 and you'll learn that an hour on that bike would burn about 392 calories, or 6.5 calories per minute.

Keep in mind, the MET values are drawn from population studies and don't account for many of the individual differences that determine your actual calorie usage.

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,
vs.
JAMES A. FLEMING, CRISTANCIA M. FLEMING, ROSALIA A. FLEMING, ALFRED F. FLEMING, DEEPAK H. SADHWANI, Defendants.

Civil Action No. 03-0414C

NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants James A. Fleming and Cristancia M. Fleming in the following described, real property situated in San Jose, Tinian, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Fee Simple in land situated in San Jose, Tinian, CNMI. **Lot No. 003 T 23** (formerly Block 7 Lot 1) as shown on the Division of Land and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat Number 003 T 00 dated July 20, 1970, and containing an area of 1,476 square meters, more or less, and including all existing and permanent improvements on the real property, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, December 19, 2008,** subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid.** No minimum opening bid.
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Oscar C. Camacho, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of James A. Fleming and Cristancia M. Fleming in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this _____ day of November 2008.
/S/_____
SANTIAGO F. TUDELA,
COMMISSIONER
Department of Public Safety

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Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff,
vs.
MANUEL A. TENORIO, The ESTATE OF MARTINA C. TENORIO, ROSALIA T. SABLAN, JOAQUIN A. TENORIO, JOSE A. TENORIO, and PEDRO A. TENORIO, Defendants.
Defendants.

Civil Action No. 97-341

NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Manuel A. Tenorio and the Estate of Martina C. Tenorio in the following described real property situated in San Vicente, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Tract No. 22888-8, containing an area of 2,041 square meters, with the following coordinates: N 70º 43' 32" E, 63.50 meters to Corner 2; S 18º 53' 06" W, 65.62 meters to Corner 3; N 74º 37' 22" W, 27.43 meters to Corner 4; N 19º 53' 41" W, 36.00 meters to Corner 1; as shown in Drawing No. 2049/80, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith;

and

Lot 401 New-2-1, containing an area of 2,000 square meters, as more particularly described as beginning at a corner which is designated as Corner No. 1, having plane rectangular coordinates of 47,329.502 meters North and 50,833.089 meters east of the Mariana Islands District Coordinate System of 1966:

Thence S 53º 17' 16" E, 42.250 meters to corner 2; Thence S 47º 04' 21" E, 15.000 meters to corner 3; Thence S 31º 56' 58" W, 36.233 meters to corner 4; Thence N 51º 39' 38" W, 51.996 meters to corner 5; Thence N 23º 58' 28" E, 37.10 meters to corner 1, the point of beginning, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith, which property (i.e., Lot 401 New-2-1) was divided and partitioned out of Lot 401 New-2, and includes an easement of access and necessity, allowing ingress and egress to and from Lot 401 New-2-1, across Lot 401 New-2-R1;

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, December 19, 2008,** subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.)To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.)To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Oscar C. Camacho, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Manuel A. Tenorio and the Estate of Martina C. Tenorio in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.**

Dated this 21st day of November 2008.

/S/_____
SANTIAGO F. TUDELA,
COMMISSIONER
Department of Public Safety

Life & Style

The image of affirmation: In Michelle Obama, women see their best selves

By DENEEN L. BROWN and RICHARD LEIBY
(C) 2008, THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON—Michelle Obama emerged from a black limousine that pulled up at the White House the other day. She stood in a bold red dress that followed her lines. She smoothed her hair and moved between her man—the president-elect—and the first lady. Tall in shiny red pumps, she seemed to tower over them all.

As she stood there, many black women on this side of the White House gate saw something else in Michelle Obama that sunny afternoon: bits and pieces of themselves.

They saw their family in hers, or the family they dreamed of having. Saw a woman whose husband seemed to adore her, giving her hugs and pecks on the lips as if the whole world were not watching.

Women watched Michelle Obama until she disappeared into the White House. Then they began talking.

"I like the way she carries herself," says Liz Nolan, 65.

"I like the fact that she walks with him," says Shenee McRae, 31, "not behind him or in front of him."

"For black women, she is visible proof that you can be anything you want to be," says Greer Jones, 37.

These particular women were at A Natural Motion, Nolan's beauty salon about a mile from the White House. Elsewhere, in offices, in kitchens, on the radio, over the telephone, in churches, on blogs, women are talking and whispering a chorus of amens. Not just black women—all women. They comment on what they see, or don't see. They opine about Michelle Obama's intellect, her style. Fascinated by Michelle—first-name basis already.

They noticed the way Michelle, 44, wore her hair pulled back in a ponytail to vote, as normal black women would on the way to the hairdresser the morning before a big event. Two daughters in tow in plaits. They liked the way she wore J.Crew on Jay Leno. And noticed that she told her husband he needed to be home for Valentine's Day.

It would be too trivial to say that she is smashing stereotypes of black women, because the stereotypes are so flat, so one-sided, so unreal, that smashing them would be like punching a cloud.

"There's the stereotype of the powerful black woman, the aggressive black woman; there is the stereotype of the mammy," says Aziza Gibson-Hunter, 54, of Washington, a conceptual artist and mother of four.

THE WASHINGTON POST

Artist Aziza Gibson-Hunter, in her Washington home studio, says the soon-to-be first lady is "forcing people who have never taken the time to know who we are as black women to take a second look."

What she sees in Michelle Obama is strength: "I saw it in my mother. When I was a kid, I saw it in the women in the church, this dignified strength. I think that is real.

"I think Michelle Obama is her own woman. I think people with the stereotype thing need to get over it. She is forcing people who have never taken the time to know who we are as black women to take a second look. To actually see, for once in their life, that there are black women that are brilliant and graceful, intelligent, well spoken and have their own sense of themselves. And it doesn't have to be measured up to anyone else."

Gibson-Hunter is sitting on the black leather sofa in her home with her husband, Jawara, an anesthesiologist. Their dachshund just jumped in her lap. Her 16-year-old son is on the computer in the other room "supposedly doing homework."

"I think for nonblack people, they are going to have to maybe deal with the stereotypes in their heads," Gibson-Hunter said. "What this whole situation is doing is inviting people to look behind the projections in their own minds and maybe begin to do some work to deconstruct some of that and find the truth."

■■■

The stage is set for soul-searching. "Michelle Obama will be under the microscope in a way no other woman of color has been," said Donna Brazile, a Democratic commentator and strategist who offered advice to the Obama campaign. "There's no question that Michelle Obama will alter the playbook for black women for years to come. ... We're long overdue for this."

During the presidential campaign, Michelle Obama found herself branded "Obama's baby mama" in a Fox News graphic. Some conservative pundits labeled her an "angry," unpatriotic black woman after she remarked in February, "For the first time in my adult life, I am proud of my country, because it feels like hope is finally making a comeback. And I have been desperate to see our country moving in that direction." By July came a depiction of Michelle Obama as an Angela Davis type, fist-bumping her husband on a satiric New Yorker cover that famously backfired.

THE WASHINGTON POST

At A Natural Motion beauty salon in Washington, Shenee McRae, left, Breigh Echavarria and Frankie Bethea weigh in on the future first lady. "She is smart," says McRae. "… She's not the trophy wife."

She says she ignores labels, telling NPR: "I have not paid much attention about what people say about me who don't know me." She said she was saying one thing—how proud she was that more Americans were participating in the electoral politics—and the way people interpreted it was another thing. African-Americans say they knew exactly what she was talking about: For too long, they felt excluded from the political process. The Obamas changed that.

THE WASHINGTON POST

Liz Nolan, owner of A Natural Motion beauty salon in Washington, with a framed letter from Barack Obama. "I like the way she carries herself," Nolan, 65, says of Michelle Obama.

But the controversy highlights how the first lady will need to practice "impression management," said Quinetta Roberson, a Villanova University business school professor who co-authored a law journal article analyzing public perceptions of the future first lady.

"One of the other perceptions around her is that she is a very strong woman, and her influence on her husband and family is very clear," Roberson said. "In his acceptance speech, Barack Obama said she is `the rock of our family.' Other politicians may say my spouse is my ally or inspiration, but it doesn't necessarily suggest an equal role. `Rock of our family' means she is right next to him and a critical part of his foundation."

Yet the positive can easily be spun as a negative, into a stereotype of an "aggressive, somewhat overbearing woman," Roberson says.

People have been drawing conclusions about Michelle Obama by refracting her words through their own experiences and biases. There are blogs following her every move: the school-selection process for her daughter, her performance on "60 Minutes," her figure. Essayist Erin Aubry Kaplan posted this on Salon.com: "Barack's better half not only has stature but is statuesque. She has coruscating intelligence, beauty, style and—drumroll, please—a butt."

Still to come will be more serious assessments based on the causes she promotes, her first official journey outside the country, her first state dinner.

"I have no doubt that she is prepared for the challenge," said Lani Guinier, a Harvard Law School professor and one-time Clinton nominee for a top Justice Department post. "She and her husband embody a very healthy relationship. That in itself is quite a public and political statement."

Guinier added: "I toast to the time when this is all normal—or otherwise unremarkable."

For Portia Pedro, 29, a third-year student of Guinier's, the hope "for young black professional women that's embodied in Michelle Obama is a bit different from the hope invested in Barack Obama." As these women go higher and higher into education, they outnumber black men. "There is a not-so-silent concern that you are less likely to get married and less likely to have children," Pedro said. "The career part is not in question, but can you do that and be married and have a family? If she can do that, then it opens possibilities for other black women."

Alice Thomas, a 45-year-old professor at Howard University School of Law, said the Obama marriage should help redefine the image of black relationships.

With his election night tribute to his wife, Thomas said, the president-elect crowned all black women: "He had a humble enough spirit to concede the stage to her. ... It elevated black women in a way we haven't been elevated since antiquity: Queen Hatshepsut, Queen Nzinga, Cleopatra, Nefertiti. World leaders came seeking them, admiring their beauty. They were not just beautiful, they were intelligent.

"For him to regard her and treat her and show and express unabashedly, unashamedly, his love for her, his love for her intelligence, respecting her, romancing her, smiling at her—for the world to see that exchange between a powerful black man and a powerful black woman, I think it's what is everlasting about this," Thomas said. "I don't think we can point to another power black couple like that."

Some women say Michelle Obama and her family represent nothing really new—that there have always been stable, married, beautiful black families living in beautiful houses and sending their children to private schools. Mother in pearls. Dad in sharp suits. So often, black families are depicted as statistics. But look behind the curtained windows and you'll see "normal" American behavior: working parents, live-in grandmothers.

Michelle Obama told the Cleveland Plain Dealer during the Democratic convention: "When I was growing up in the '80s, `The Cosby Show' meant so much to African-American families. A lot of people looked at the Huxtables and thought, `There's no way that family exists.' But African-Americans knew differently. If we don't see those images, then the people don't believe they exist."

If you peeked you would see yourself, too—a family, just a regular family. All these years they were there, living in cities and suburbs, down the street from you. Soon, they'll be living in the White House—with Michelle Obama as self-described mom-in-chief, standing in for so many women on this side of the gate.

Musical at Iowa college acts out scary Bible tales

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—Don't expect to hear these Bible stories at church.

Cannibalism, rape, a bear that mauls children—this is the Bible?

They're among six stories from the Old Testament acted out in "Terror Texts," a musical at Northwestern College in Orange City.

Adding to the shocking nature of the stories are the theatrics, with actors decked out in Goth attire, a rock band and a mosh pit.

Theater professor Jeff Barker said the obscurity of the stories belies their value.

"We believe we have discovered something that has been lying dormant for many, many centuries," said Barker, who created and directs "Terror Texts."

The musical was first performed at the 1,200 student Christian college in northwest Iowa in February and came back for an encore this fall, with a last performance slated for this weekend.

Barker uses the King James version of the Bible, and actors speak each verse word-by-word. It is not an interpretation or adaptation, like "Godspell" or "Jesus Christ Superstar."

"There's tremendous power waiting when you simply speak and act these stories aloud with faithfulness to the text, not trying to adapt them or add a lot of bits, but just simply play what's written there," Barker said.

Barker views the Bible as a "repository of ancient plays," and when performed they can be seen in a whole new light—even the dark stories.

"I was looking for terror text, stories I can say are thematically tied together because they are frightening and mysterious and terrifying," Barker said. "That's part of what we're saying with this whole project that life and God himself are mysteries."

William Dyrness, a professor of theology and culture at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif., specializes in visual arts in relation to religious tradition.

He said biblical scholars have proposed that much of the Old Testament is poetry and was designed to be sung, especially in the temple as part of worship.

"It's not far from that to think of it as a play," he said. "Theologians have argued the best way to understand the Bible is in terms of it being a great dramatic performance."

He called "Terror Text" a creative variation of that idea.

"This is obviously a very Protestant approach where you're attempting to understand this story so that you can see the way the Bible applies to your life," he said. "You carry it on in your life. You become part of the story."

Student Hannah McBride has several roles in the performance, including as a virgin who gets kidnapped at the end of a story of rape, murder and war. McBride said it has shown her something about herself.

"This particular project has affected the way I view negative emotions—grief, anger, bitterness and spite and hate. We are meant to be emotional people. The Bible in a lot of ways shows us that that's OK," she said. "We need to embrace that we're going to be very, very sad and we won't know what to do with that."

AP

This photo, supplied by Northwestern College, shows Ben Bees from Yucca Valley, Calif., who has a part in "Terror Texts," a musical at Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa.

In her role as a virgin, McBride wears a wedding dress that has been destroyed. She describes her look as a "corpse bride."

"It has that image of what could have been great, I ruined," she said.

In a world in which religion often is practiced privately or individually, Barker said he hopes people will understand the Bible better through his performance.

"These mysterious, dark stories of the Old Testament, they bring us face-to-face with the suffering of the world," Barker said. "It says we are capable of great evil and we must not forget these stories and we have some serious things to be accountable for in our own lives as a group and individually."

Screen Actors Guild to seek strike authorization

LOSANGELES(AP)—The Screen Actors Guild said Saturday it will ask its members to authorize a strike after its first contract talks in four months with Hollywood studios failed despite the help of a federal mediator.

Federal mediator Juan Carlos Gonzalez adjourned the talks between SAG and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers shortly before 1 a.m. after two marathon sessions failed to produce an agreement. No new talks are scheduled.

The SAG, representing more than 120,000 actors in movies, television and other media, said in a statement that it will launch a "full-scale education campaign in support of a strike authorization."

Talks broke down after the studios sought the right to create productions for new media, such as the Internet, using non-union actors and without paying residuals, said Doug Allen, SAG national executive director and chief negotiator.

Residuals are payments to actors that are made every time a production airs, such as TV reruns. Many SAG members rely on residuals for more than half of their income, Allen said.

"They're asking us to bless a system we believe would be the beginning of the end of residuals, and that's a very scary thought for working actors," he said.

The producers' alliance condemned the SAG decision and said it remains the only major Hollywood guild without a labor deal this year.

"Now, SAG is bizarrely asking its members to bail out the failed negotiating strategy with a strike vote—at a time of historic economic crisis," a producers' statement said. "The tone-deafness of SAG is stunning."

SAG's national board has already authorized its negotiating committee to call for a strike authorization vote if mediation failed. The vote would take more than a month and require more than 75 percent approval to pass.

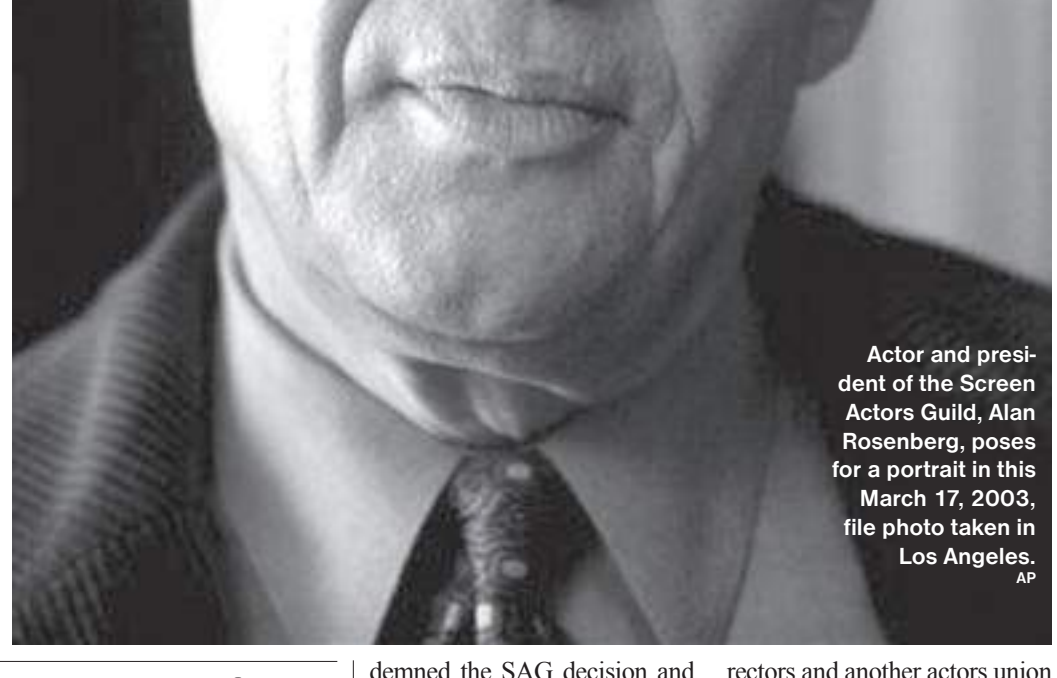
SAG wants union coverage for all Internet-only productions regardless of budget and residual payments for Internet productions replayed online, as well as continued actor protections during work stoppages.

But the AMPTP said it was untenable for SAG to demand a better deal than what writers, directors and another actors union accepted earlier in the year, especially now that the economy has worsened.

The producers' group this week said it had reached its sixth labor deal this year, a tentative agreement on a three-year contract with the local branches of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts, accounting for 35,000 workers.

The stagehands alliance accepted Internet provisions that were modeled on agreements with other unions, the producers group said.

Actors in prime-time television shows and movies have been working under the terms of a contract that expired June 30, with the hope of avoiding a repeat of the 100-day writers strike which shut down production of dozens of TV shows and cost the Los Angeles area economy an estimated $2.5 billion.



Actor and president of the Screen Actors Guild, Alan Rosenberg, poses for a portrait in this March 17, 2003, file photo taken in Los Angeles.

AP

Tenor's Met Opera feat: 2 major roles in a day

NEW YORK (AP)—Italian tenor Marcello Giordani has pulled off the rare feat of singing two major roles in a single day at New York's Metropolitan Opera.

Giordani performed the title role in Berlioz's "La Damnation de Faust" during a matinee Saturday.

A few hours later he sang the leading tenor role of Benjamin Franklin Pinkerton in "Madama Butterfly." He replaced a sick colleague.

Most singers perform only two or three times a week. The Met says only a handful have tackled two leading roles in a day for the renowned company.

General manager Peter Gelb calls Giordani the "Iron Man of tenors."

AP

In this Nov. 4, 2008 file file photo provided by the Metropolitan Opera, Marcello Giordani portrays Faust, in Berlioz's "La Damnation de Faust," during the final dress rehearsal at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York.

Overworked mom gets attitude instead of help from daughters

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I spent last Thanksgiving weekend with tears streaming down my face. Both my adult daughters spent the holiday with us.

I served dinner to more than 20 people and got no help cleaning up until Friday morning when I had a meltdown and demanded some. Then my older daughter said, "Sorry," in a sarcastic tone, and my younger daughter responded with, "Anybody mind if I take a shower now?" (My husband works third shift and helps me as much as he can.)

I spent all that day loading and unloading the dishwasher, and putting things back where they belong. My daughters spent the day shopping, visiting friends and watching TV.

I have spent my life trying to make holidays special for my daughters so they would have happy childhood memories. All my hard work seems to have backfired. Instead of wanting to participate in making these memories happen, they have developed a sense of entitlement -- as if I am obligated to do everything. My daughters revert to being children the minute they cross the threshold, expecting me to be their mommy, cook and maid who attends to their every need. I have spoken to them about this repeatedly. They always promise to do better, but never do until I cry.

Please print this. I know I'm not the only mother who suffers this way. Maybe your response can save us all.

HEARTBROKEN IN MILWAUKEE

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: Don't blame your daughters. You created this monster, and it's now up to you to fix it. Inform your daughters TODAY what chores they will be expected to do when they arrive -- including the preparation of some of the menu items. If the dishes don't get done, they won't be served this year.

Also, tell them what part of the cleanup they have been assigned. If your princesses don't perform, let them know that Thanksgiving will, indeed, be a "memory" because you can no longer shoulder the responsibility alone.

P.S. You should not have to burst into tears before your daughters act responsibly. If they give you any argument, schedule a lovely vacation for you and your husband next Thanksgiving. You deserve one.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm concerned about my 37-year-old brother, "Ricky," who still lives at home with our mother. Ricky is good-looking, never married and has never really had a girlfriend. Our father passed away four years ago, and since then our mother has become dependent on Ricky for everything.

Neither one has any friends outside the family. I try to get my brother to come out and meet people and have some fun, but he generally declines. If he does agree to come, Mother comes with him.

Please don't get me wrong. We all love and support her in every way, but this situation is unhealthy and weird. They almost act like a married couple. Please help. What should I do?

DESPERATE SIS IN ILLINOIS

DEAR SIS: Start by having a frank talk with your brother and asking him if he likes living his life this way. There has to be a reason why a good-looking, 37-year-old man has never had a girlfriend. Maybe he doesn't want one.

After that, it's time to have a chat with your mother. I don't know how old she is, but one would think that she might like to "play" with people her own age. If she indicates any interest, then you and your siblings should encourage her to reach out. If she doesn't, then MYOB.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Nigerians top MTV Africa music awards

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP)—Two Nigerian singers won top awards Saturday as MTV held its first-ever music award program for Africa, with acts from across the world's poorest continent being nominated for prizes.

Nigerian singer D'banj won the artist of the year award, while his compatriot, Naeto C, took the laurels for the best new African act, it was announced at the ceremony in Abuja, Nigeria's capital.

Winners were selected by fans sending text messages, said Alison Reid, a spokeswoman for MTV Networks Africa.

Africa has long featured a vibrant music scene, but artists have had difficulties breaking into overseas markets. Famous African artists include Senegal's Youssou N'dour, Nigerian legend Fela Kuti and South African impresario Miriam Makeba, who died this month.

MTV hopes the awards can offer the artists more exposure and celebrate the continent's artistry.

Performers from South Africa, Kenya, Ghana, Gabon and others also were nominated. Songs by D'banj and Naeto C, both male, are all but ubiquitous on the radio in Nigeria, Africa's most-populous nation of 140 million people.

AP

American artist Kelly Rowland, right, performs with Nigerian singer D' banj, winner of artist of the year, at the MTV Africa Music Awards in Abuja Nigeria Saturday, Nov. 22, 2008.

African music is highly varied, reflecting myriad tastes in the vast continent. Included across the many genres are call-and-response chanting and heavy drumming, drawing on pre-colonial modes of communication among villages.

Since independence movements swept the continent in the 1960s, African music also has increasingly been open to outside influence, incorporating salsa rhythms, rock beats and, increasingly, hip hop and R&B styles.

Many of the new Nigerian acts nominated Saturday feature heavy beats pioneered by American rappers and hip-hop artists. The lyrics often reflect the desire of many Nigerians to escape poverty and corrupt governance.

MTV's regional music channel MTV Base now reaches almost 50 million African viewers in 48 countries through a network of pay-per-view services and partnerships with domestic channels.

Oprah, Leno, Letterman: What's Palin to do next?

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Sarah Palin is juggling offers to write books, appear in films and sit on dozens of interview couches at a rate astonishing for most Hollywood stars, let alone a first-term governor.

Oprah wants her. So do Letterman and Leno.

The failed Republican vice presidential candidate crunched state budget numbers this past week in her 17th-floor office as tumbling oil prices hit Alaska's revenues. Her staff, meanwhile, fielded television requests seeking the 44-year-old Palin for late-night banter and Sunday morning Washington policy.

Agents from the William Morris Agency and elsewhere, have come knocking. There even has been an offer to host a TV show.

"Tomorrow, Governor Palin could do an interview with any news media on the planet," said her spokesman, Bill McAllister. "Tomorrow, she could probably sign any one of a dozen book deals. She could start talking to people about a documentary or a movie on her life. That's the level we are at here."

"Barbara Walters called me. George Stephanopoulos called me," McAllister said. "I've had multiple conversations with producers for Oprah, Letterman, Leno and 'The Daily Show.'"

Asked whether Winfrey was pursuing Palin for a sit-down, Michelle McIntyre, a spokeswoman for Winfrey's Chicago-based Harpo Productions Inc., said she was "unable to confirm any future plans" for the show.

Palin may have emerged from the campaign politically wounded, with questions about her preparedness for higher office and reports of an expensive wardrobe. But she has returned to Alaska with an expanded, if unofficial, title—international celebrity.

AP

In this Nov. 4, 2008 file photo, Gov. Sarah Palin, R-Alaska, acknowledges the crowd during an election night rally in Phoenix.

John McCain plucked Palin out of relative obscurity in late August and put her on the national GOP ticket. Now, she has to decide how and where to spend her time, which could have implications for her political future and her bank account, with possible land mines of legal and ethical rules.

Palin is considering about 800 requests for appearances from December through 2009, with 75 percent coming from out of state. A year ago, just a sprinkle of requests came from beyond Alaska's borders. They range from invitations to speak at The Chief Executives' Club of Boston to attend a 5-year-old's birthday party, from a prayer breakfast in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to a business conference in Britain.

Michael Steele, the former Maryland lieutenant governor who wants to be the next chairman of the Republican National Committee, is seeking face time.

She has invitations to make appearances in 20 foreign countries, typically with all expenses paid, McAllister said. She has more than 200 requests for media interviews, again from around the globe.

"She has to pace herself," suggested veteran Hollywood publicist Howard Bragman. "She wants a career made in a Crock-Pot, not a microwave."

In her two months on the national stage, Palin energized the Republican base but turned off moderates and independents, according to some surveys. Flubbed answers in national television interviews raised questions about her competence. She was embarrassed by the disclosure the RNC spent at least $150,000 for designer clothing, accessories and beauty services for her and her family.

The right book or movie deal could help Palin reintroduce herself to the nation, on terms she could dictate.

While books and movie deals could be worth millions of dollars, it's not clear if Palin would be able to legally earn it. State rules say she cannot accept outside employment for compensation. But there appears to be little in the way of precedent left by former governors to judge if book deals or lucrative speaking appearances amount to "employment."

Palin has sent unmistakable signals she is open to running for president in 2012, but to advance her political ambitions she must stay in the public eye in the lower 48 states. As with any celebrity, there is the risk of overexposure. At the same time, she'll be under pressure to attend to governing her home state, which is thousands of miles from the rest of the nation.

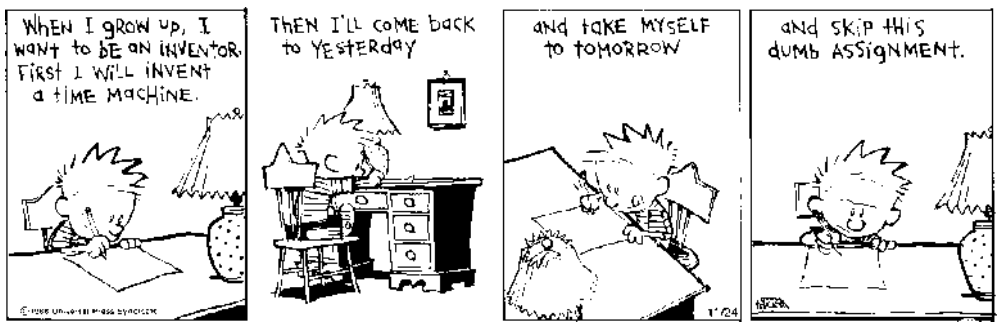
"She has to deal with the perception that she bobbled her debut," said Claremont McKenna College political scientist John Pitney. "She needs to stay home for a while. If she wants a future in national politics, her No. 1 job is doing a good job as governor."

Just this past week, shortly after conducting a string of national TV interviews and skipping a state education conference, she was scolded by the Anchorage Daily News. "There are ... low graduation rates, plummeting North Slope oil prices, proposals to build alternative energy projects, the gas pipeline," the paper said in an editorial. "It's time for the governor to refocus on Alaska's needs."

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


WHEN I GROW UP, I WANT TO BE AN INVENTOR. FIRST I WILL INVENT A TIME MACHINE.
THEN I'LL COME BACK TO YESTERDAY
AND TAKE MYSELF TO TOMORROW
AND SKIP THIS DUMB ASSIGNMENT.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

DAD, I DON'T FEEL WELL. CAN I STAY HOME?
YOU'RE NOT FAKING IT, ARE YOU?
NO, I ALWAYS FEEL QUEASY WHEN I DON'T FINISH A SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT ON TIME.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

HAVE YOU FIGURED OUT THE STOVE YET?
I FOUND A DIAL THAT SAYS "ROAST"
WE'RE GETTING CLOSER. NOW WE JUST NEED TO FIND THE TURKEY DIAL

CROSSWORD

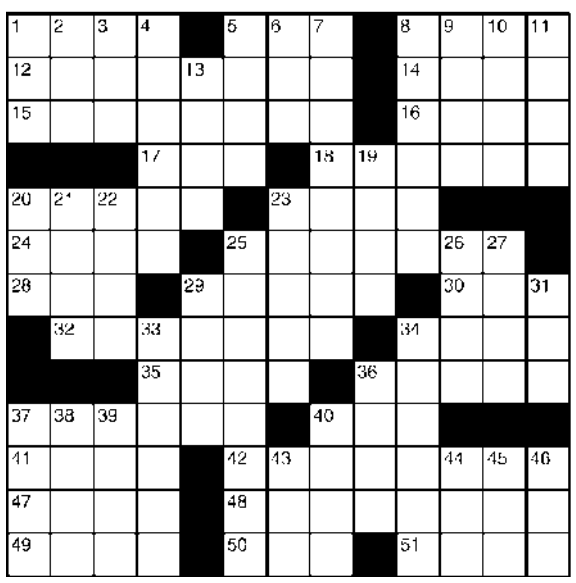
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Nessie's home, for one
5 Banned insecticide
8 Post-boul apparel
12 Examination
14 Watched
15 Reverie
16 Repair
17 Speck
18 Open square, in Italy
20 With fervor
23 Poolroom prop
24 Reed instrument
25 Ray of light
28 Glutton
29 Play the banjo
30 Craze
32 Wrestling format
34 Dwindle
35 Go: better
36 Shakespeare's Kate
37 Jewish village
40 Pair
41 Harbor city
42 Ben & Jerry's product
47 Settled down
48 Choker, e.g.
49 Inter-office note
50 Earth (Prefix)
51 Mulligan —

DOWN
1 Hallucinogen letters
2 Goose, in Guadalajara
3 Weep
4 Football conference?
5 Regimen
6 "CSI" find
7 Middle ear membrane
8 Updated movie
9 Courtroom call
10 Mercedes- —
11 Icelandic epic
13 Helen's home
19 Cold War missile
20 Short flight
21 Newspaper notice
22 Forum garb
23 Not urban
25 Thief's task
26 Some where out there
27 Lion's pride?
29 Undo a dele
31 Morning moisture
33 Certain city area
34 Fingerprint spirals
36 Use a straw
37 Junk e-mail
38 Golf goal
39 Slender
40 Erte's style of art
43 Bee follower
44 Chow down
45 Expert
46 Kitten's call

Solution time: 24 mins.

Saturday's answer 11-24



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Katherine Heigl, 30; Damon Evans, 59; Dwight Shultz, 61; Pete Best, 67

Happy Birthday: The more you relax and enjoy your friends, colleagues and family, the more enriched you will become. This is a great year for you to take a vacation, become more involved in your community and to make moves that will enhance your life professionally, personally and emotionally. Only indecisiveness and negativity will stand in your way. Your numbers are 2, 14, 20, 27, 36, 37, 44

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Play to win and let your shrewd side shine through. There is money to be made, so put your finger on the pulse of what's up and coming and you will see profits. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Speak from the heart. Give your honest opinion of whatever situation you face at home, work or school. A position that you want should come through if you handle an interview or application with strength, knowledge and confidence. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): It's not always about money—sometimes it has more to do with integrity and what you can live with. Don't be so hard on yourself when you know in your heart what you must do. Surround yourself with a good team. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Take a bit of a break and do something nice for yourself. Romance is looking good so pick up something for that special person in your life. Draw the line if someone you have to work with is taking over or being a bully. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't let personal, emotional issues cloud your vision. Focus on what you can do and who you can convince to take your side. Joining forces with people who think like you will help you get your way. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Be careful how you handle the ones you love. Sudden, unexpected changes in your life and your home are upon you. You may have options but, before you go down a road that may cause rumors, evaluate the pros and cons. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You can make some good decisions regarding your home, family and what to do next. There are opportunities to expand your friendships and your knowledge through travel, courses or a group that offers mental stimulation. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): There may be trouble with someone with whom you have a secret. Don't underestimate this person's ability to use something against you. Stabilize your personal life by implementing a couple of financial changes. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You don't have to go far to gain approval or to find a way to utilize your talents. Get involved in a group or organization that interests you. A serious connection will lead to important professional knowledge. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't let someone's compliments fool you. He or she wants something and you have to figure out what. Don't give in but do get serious about what you can and cannot do. A deal can be made but it must be on your terms. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You have more to offer than you realize. Start to put your talents to good use. Use your services to make proposals and to turn any negative in your life into a positive. Give up what you don't need and budget in what you do. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't take action when you don't have all the facts. It isn't likely you will win a debate or a challenge by being argumentative. Instead, listen and find out what's really going on before meddling in affairs that shouldn't concern you. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are bright, adventurous and exciting to be around. You have plenty of charm and are a gifted speaker. You are a competitive powerhouse.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	2			4		8		3
	4	8				6	9	
9			8	2				7
	6		2					
8			7		3			5
					8		3	
4				7	6			1
	5	2				7	4	
7		9		5			8	

Difficulty Level ★ 11/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	4	6	9	7	8	3	1	5
3	8	7	1	5	2	6	9	4
9	1	5	3	4	6	7	2	8
8	7	9	4	3	1	2	5	6
1	3	4	2	6	5	9	8	7
5	6	2	7	8	9	1	4	3
6	9	3	5	1	4	8	7	2
4	2	8	6	9	7	5	3	1
7	5	1	8	2	3	4	6	9

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 11/24

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE OCTOPUS — Solution: 10 letters

E	S	I	U	G	S	I	D	S	T	R	I	U	Q	S
S	T	M	U	S	S	E	L	S	F	G	I	L	L	S
C	E	A	I	S	N	I	K	S	O	F	E	E	L	H
A	N	L	R	W	C	R	A	B	S	K	K	I	D	I
P	T	L	O	B	S	T	E	R	S	E	A	S	A	D
E	A	E	O	H	E	Z	B	U	M	N	M	S	E	I
D	C	S	P	C	I	I	L	I	S	S	Q	E	H	N
I	L	R	C	S	E	L	R	U	L	U	F	S	E	G
R	E	O	G	P	O	A	C	E	I	L	T	N	U	H
Y	S	G	H	M	N	K	N	D	V	E	Y	E	S	E
T	E	P	H	I	E	A	L	E	N	N	U	F	K	A
H	D	I	M	R	W	A	T	F	R	I	I	F	C	R
G	I	A	S	H	A	P	E	P	N	S	A	D	O	T
I	L	V	I	S	I	O	N	K	H	O	P	R	R	O
E	G	A	C	C	O	A	S	T	D	L	I	M	B	S

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Animal, Arms, Bill, Brain, Cage, Coast, Crabs, Deep, Defense, Disguise, Eggs, Eight, Escape, Eyes, Feed, Feel, Fish, Funnel, Gills, Glide, Head, Heart, Hiding, Hold, Hole, Hunt, Inks, Invertebrate, Limbs, Lobsters, Make, Mollusk, Mussels, Ocean, Prey, Ride, Rocks, Seas, Sel, Shape, Shrimp, Size, Skins, Snails, Soft, Squid, Squirts, Suckers, Swim, Tentacles, Vision, Water

Last Saturday's Answer: Pony

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	**$25**
• 5-Liner	**$35**
• 3-Liner with picture	**$45**
• 5-Liner with picture	**$55**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday And Sunday Issues:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on either Sunday or Monday issues.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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VACANCIES

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Local / IR only
Pickup application at LSG main office on Airport Road.

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SUPERIOR COURT
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, U.S.A.
Guma' Hustisia, Ilmwal Aweewe, House of Justice
P.O. BOX 500307, SAIPAN, MP 96950-0307

Job Vacancy Announcement

CNMI Superior Court, Family Court Division is looking for an energetic and dynamic individual to fill the position of:

Family Court Coordinator

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in Criminal Justice, Social Work, Psychology, or a related field and three year experience.

Minimum Qualification: Excellent Written/Verbal Communication Skills and Computer Proficiency in Microsoft Office Program

Interested applicants must submit their resume with a cover letter and a copy of diploma on or before Monday, December 1, 2008. Documents may be dropped off at the following locations:

Saipan	Tinian	Rota
Superior Court	Superior Court	Superior Court
Family Court Division	Clerk of Court	Clerk of Court
Susupe, Saipan	San Jose, Tinian	Sinapalo, Rota

For more information, please contact Patrick V. Diaz, Family Court Manager at (670) 236-9781.

WHATZIT Solution: Double check

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, FF, AC, 24-hr pwr./water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. MIHA applicants accepted. Right behind NMC campus. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

For Rent: 2 bedroom, 1bedroom, studio type, located in Aslito and CK centralized location. Fully furnished, 24hr/ water, safe, cheap. For more inquiry please call 287-7769

FOR SALE

For sale: Used Diesel Generator, Denyo made in Japan, sound proof 25KV. Price: $5,500. Call Glenn @ 322-8223, 8am to 5pm

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

DOUBLE

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Find today's solution in this section

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 234-7859
Fax.: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. **ROSLYN C. PALACIOS,** Defendant.	)))))))	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 08-0358** **AMENDED SUMMONS**

TO: THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT ROSLYN C. PALACIOS

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR by the 21st day after the fourth date of publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS and defend the above entitled action in the CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, at the Office of Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Ilmwal Aweewe, House of Justice, Susuper Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307; and answer the complaint of the plaintiff Bank of Guam, and serve a copy of your answer upon **Robert Tenorio Torres**, attorney for Plaintiff Bank of Guam, at **Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950;** and in case of failure to do so, judgement will be rendered against you according to the demand of the COMPLAINT, which has been filed with the Clerk of Court.

So **ORDERED** this 22th day of October, 2008

/s/ **Bernadita A. Sablan**
Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 234-7859
Fax.: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. **SALVELO M. HESUS** Defendant.	)))))))	**CIVIL CASE NO. 08-0364** **AMENDED SUMMONS**

TO: THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT SALVELO M. HESUS

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR by the 21st day after the fourth date of publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS and defend the above entitled action in the CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, at the Office of Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Ilmwal Aweewe, House of Justice, Susuper Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307; and answer the complaint of the plaintiff Bank of Guam, and serve a copy of your answer upon **Robert Tenorio Torres**, attorney for Plaintiff Bank of Guam, at **Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950;** and in case of failure to do so, judgement will be rendered against you according to the demand of the COMPLAINT, which has been filed with the Clerk of Court.

So **ORDERED** this 24th day of October, 2008

/s/ **Bernadita A. Sablan**
Clerk of Court

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Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
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Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm, M-F daily

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of ESTEBAN RASIANG NOGIS
Deceased.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-0113D
FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuan to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 16, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of the Estate of Esteban Rasiang Nogis in and to the following property: Tract No. 22703-3, containing an area of 1,484 square meters, more or less.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 19, 2008, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 17th day of November, 2008.

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**
Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF HAWAII,
Plaintiff,
vs.
SYLVIA ARRIOLA PE and RENATO S. PE,
Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-0455
NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Amended Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 5, 2008, I will sell, at public auction to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: EA 415-3 NEW-3, (formerly part of EA 415-3 NEW, which was part of original EA 415), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2026/89, the original of which was recorded 07 DEC 88 as Document No. 88-3910 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on 5th of December, 2008, at the hour of 3:00p.m. , at the Carlsmith Ball LLP, Carlsmith Building, Capitol Hill, Isa Drive, P.O. Box 5241, Saipan, MP 96950-5241. The sale will be opened to general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

Dated: Saipan, MP, November 7, 2008.

/s/ Vincent J. Seman
Attorneys for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Plaintiff,
vs.
VICENTE C. AYUYU,
Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-486
FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuan to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 11, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 005 I 487, situated in Koblerville, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 1,087 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 005 I 08, the original of whic was registered on September 30, 1983, as Document No. 18434, at the Land Registry, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 19, 2008, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 17th day of November, 2008.

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**
Auctioneer

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Plaintiff,
vs.
CARLOS ALDAN AGUON and LOLITA BALUYUT AGUON,
Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 07-488
FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on September 15, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 G 55, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 03 dated May 31, 1989, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 90-1900, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 19, 2008, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 17th day of November, 2008.

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**
Auctioneer

F. MATTHEW SMITH
Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, LLC.
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
P.O. Box 501127
San Jose, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: (670) 234-7455/234-7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorney for The Petitioner.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Adoption of KIMIKO TECHUR YSAOL WALLY,
a Minor Female Child,
By:
JAMES OIKANG WALLY,
Petitioner.

ADOPTION ACTION NO. 08-0675
NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a verified petition was filed in the above-entitled court for the petition for adoption of Kimiko Techur Ysaol, (D.O.B. December 17, 1992), a monor female child, by the petitioner. The original petition is available for review at the Office of the Clerk of Court at Susupe, Saipan.

A hearing of the above-entitled matter will be held on January 8, 2009 at 1:30pm at the Guma Hustisia, Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

SO NOTICED this 19th day of November, 2008.

/s/ **Clerk of Court**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, fka MARIANAS BANK
Plaintiff,
vs.
JUAN R. SABLAN and ANGELINE F. SABLAN,
Defendant.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 97-1054
NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuan to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 10, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Real property situated in Saipan, Northern Marian Islands, designated as Lot E.A. 839 NEW 6-3, containing an area of 1,329 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. E.A. 839 NEW.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 12, 2008, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 14th day of November, 2008.

/s/ **MICHAEL A. WHITE**
Auctioneer

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235-NEWS

Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI)

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

TEMPORARY (1 YEAR) POSITION

"SYSTEMS NAVIGATOR"

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI), a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Code, seeks a **SYSTEMS NAVIGATOR**. This is a non-exempt position responsible for carrying out the objectives of the Family Support 360 program as per Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Council on Developmental Disabilities (CDD). The Systems Navigator reports to the Program Manager and works under direct supervision within prescribed standards, policies and procedures.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- An Associates Degree (A.A. or A.S.) in any related field or no less than 60 credit hours from a post secondary school; or
- Two (2) years of experience that demonstrates a thorough understanding of the specific principles and practices for the work in this position.

PREFERRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Interpersonal skills which allow employee to maintain productive working relationships with co-workers, clients and other working professionals;
- Oral and written communication skills that enable employee to effectively and professionally communicate with co-workers, clients and other working professionals; and
- Proficiency in usage of computers including, but not limited to word processing and spreadsheet applications.

HOW TO APPLY:

Interested applicants may pick up a complete job description and application forms at the NMPASI office located on middle road approximately 100 yards north of the Gualo Rai traffic light intersection. Completed application packets must be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the NMPASI Executive Director at the NMPASI Office. In order for applications to be considered they must include (1) a Cover Letter, (2) a Resumé, (3) Completed Application forms, (4) a Police Clearance and (5) must be submitted ***no later than 5:00pm on November 30, 2008.*** Incomplete applications and/or applications which do not demonstrate that the applicant meets minimum qualifications as listed above or do not meet the deadline for submittal will not be considered. For further information, please feel free to contact Mr. Jim Rayphand at (670) 235-7273/4 [voice] / 235-7278[tty] or email at nmpasi@pticom.com . NMPASI IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

James M. Rayphand
Executive Director

John Guerrero
President

CNMI Water Task Force

ITB09-GOV-021

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting Sealed Bids from qualified individuals or firms for the lease of a warehouse on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The procurement specifications and special terms and conditions will be available at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan on or after **November 17,2008.**

Any questions regarding this Invitation for Bids should be addressed to Mr. Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, CNMI Water Task Force at (670) 664-2285, or via facsimile at (670) 664-2279 before **December 1, 2008**

Sealed Bids must be marked **"Lease of Warehouse", ITB09-GOV-021**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan no later than **2:00 p.m., local time, December 10, 2008** at which time Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Bid procedures shall be in full compliance with Article 3, Part A, Section 3-102 of the Regulations. Preference is available to U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the **BID** if preference claimed.

This project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs. Award of a contract is contingent upon approval from DOI/OIA.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All Bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Timothy P. Villagomez
Lt. Governor

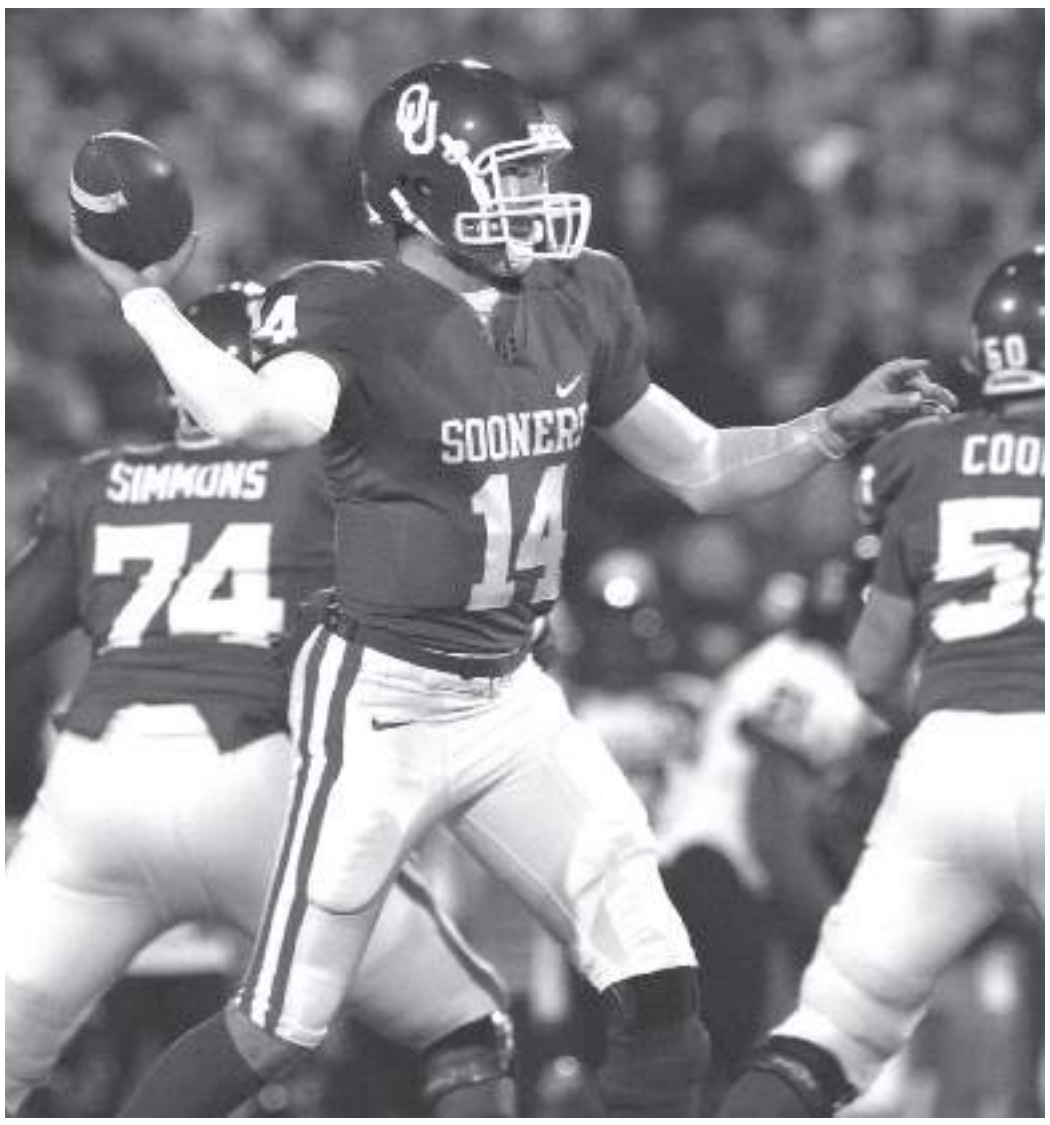
/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

Surging Sooners rout No. 2 Tech, 65-21

NORMAN, Oklahoma (AP)—Fifth-ranked Oklahoma brought an unceremonious end to No. 2 Texas Tech's perfect run in a 65-21 blowout in college football on Saturday.

Sam Bradford threw for 304 yards and four touchdowns, and DeMarco Murray and Chris Brown combined to run for five more scores, and the question now is this: Did the Sooners do enough to make up for that loss to Texas to jump back into the national championship race with No. 1 Alabama?

No. 4 Texas was idle this week, but has held a trump card over Oklahoma since winning their annual Red River Rivalry game in October 45-35 on a neutral field at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas.



AP

Oklahoma quarterback Sam Bradford passes against Texas Tech during an NCAA college football game in Norman, Okla. on Saturday, Nov. 22, 2008.

No. 3 Florida 70, Citadel 19

At Gainesville, Florida, Tim Tebow threw for 201 yards and three touchdowns and Chris Rainey ran for 142 yards and a score.

Florida became the first Southeastern Conference team to score at least 42 points in six consecutive games. The Gators finished with 705 yards and did little wrong against an overmatched opponent from the Football Championship Subdivision.

No 7 Penn State 49, No. 17 Michigan State 18

At State College, Pennsylvania, Joe Paterno said he doesn't intend for his 43rd season as head coach to be his last after leading Penn State to a share of the Big Ten title and a first trip the Rose Bowl in 13 years.

Daryll Clark threw for career-highs of 341 yards and four touchdowns and Penn State's stingy defense held running back Javon Ringer to a season-low 42 yards.

No. 8 Utah 48, No. 16 BYU 24

At Salt Lake City, Brian Johnson passed for 303 yards and four touchdowns and Utah completed a perfect regular season by winning the heated state rivalry and taking the undisputed Mountain West Conference title away from two-time defending champion BYU.

Utah forced five turnovers by BYU quarterback Max Hall, including a career-high four interceptions, and went unbeaten in the regular season at 12-0 for the third time in school history.

No. 9 Boise State 41, Nevada 34

At Reno, Nevada, Kellen Moore threw for 414 yards and three touchdowns and unbeaten Boise State kept the nation's best rushing offense in check to remain undefeated.

Boise State clinched its sixth WAC title in seven years. The Broncos close the regular season next Friday at home against Fresno State.

No. 10 Ohio St. 42, Michigan 7

At Columbus, Ohio, Ohio State won its fifth straight over Michigan for the first time and won by the biggest margin in the rivalry in 40 years for a share of its fourth straight Big Ten title.

In coach Rich Rodriguez first season at Michigan, the 3-9 Wolverines lost the most games in school history, missed a bowl trip for the first time in 34 years, and had the first losing season in 41 years.

No. 15 TCU 44, Air Force 10

At Fort Worth, Texas, Andy Dalton threw two touchdown passes and ran for two more scores to give the TCU Horned Frogs their fifth 10-win season in seven years. The senior class won its 40th game, matching the 1932-35 TCU squads for the most in a four-year period, with an undetermined bowl still to play.

Mississippi 31, No. 18 LSU 13

At Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Jevan Snead threw two touchdown passes, and Markeith Summers ran for a 13-yard score out of the "Wild Rebel" formation for Ole Miss to end a six-game losing streak against LSU since 2001.

No. 19 Cincinnati 28, No. 20 Pittsburgh 14

At Cincinnati, despite a broken non-throwing arm, Tony Pike threw three touchdown passes, each to a different receiver, and led Cincinnati to the threshold of their first Big East championship with their first win in eight games against Pittsburgh.

No. 21 Oregon State 19, Arizona 17

At Tucson, Arizona, Justin Kahut hit a 24-yard field goal as time expired to get Oregon State one victory away from their first Rose Bowl trip since 1965. The Beavers can clinch a trip to Pasadena, with a victory over No. 24 Oregon in the Civil War on Nov. 29.

Florida St 37, No. 22 Maryland 3

At College Park, Maryland, Everette Brown had 3 1/2 sacks as Florida State turned two turnovers into touchdowns in taking a 21-0 halftime lead. That was enough to ensure Maryland its first home loss and ruin its ACC Atlantic Division title hopes.

N.C. State 41, No. 25 North Carolina 10

At Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Russell Wilson threw for two touchdowns and had a key run in the third quarter to set up another score, and N.C. State earned the program's first season sweep of the state's four major college teams—Duke, Wake Forest, East Carolina were the others—in more than two decades.

Backdrop for Cowboys, 49ers: 'Remember the Rams'

IRVING, Texas (AP)—As the Dallas Cowboys and San Francisco 49ers prepare to meet Sunday, folks in both locker rooms might be saying, "Remember the Rams."

OK, so it's not the most original thing. But it sure is apt. And the twist is that the rallying cry means opposite things to each team.

For the Cowboys, their game against St. Louis marks the low point of this season, a 20-point loss that wasn't even that close in a game they were expected to win. Thus, the reminder is all about staying humble.

Strange as that might seem for a club that hasn't won consecutive games since September, Dallas is ripe for an inflated ego.

The Cowboys (6-4) are coming off a victory at Washington that kept them alive in the NFC wild-card race and could send them into December on quite a roll. All they have to do is beat San Francisco (3-7) on Sunday, then Seattle (2-8) on Thursday, both at home. With Tony Romo and cornerback Terence Newman back from injuries, that should be easy—right?

Maybe fans can think that way. Players can't, at least not if Dallas coach Wade Phillips can help it.

"We lost to St. Louis, that's all I have to say," he said.

For further emphasis, Phillips could note this score from last Sunday: 49ers 35, Rams 16.

Or, if he really wants to rub it in, he could note that San Francisco led 35-3 against a team Dallas trailed 34-7.

Beating St. Louis was huge for the 49ers. It was their first victory under interim coach Mike Singletary and the throttling performance came a week after they'd blown a late lead over Arizona.

Thus, "Remember the Rams" means picking up where they left off. So far, they've already been climbing a step every week, going from ugly home loss to narrow defeat on the road to lopsided victory. Beating an over-.500 team on the road would be the next step on the Singletary progress chart, the kind of thing that'll help when he lobbies to have "interim" dropped from his title.

It's worth noting that San Francisco's three wins have come against teams that are a combined 4-26.

"I want to see our guys go out week in and week out and compete and try to get better every day, every game," Singletary said. "That's really important for us. There's a place we want to go and we want to look at ourselves and be proud of what we're establishing."

A win might mean a lot to Singletary, too. He grew up in Houston and went to college at Baylor, about an hour and a half away. His coach there, Grant Teaff, remains a mentor and close friend, and will be in the stands watching for the first time since Singletary took over. Plus, Singletary interviewed for the Dallas job before last season, when Phillips ended up getting it.

He insists none of it will matter Sunday.

"I think it's an opportunity to come in and to compete against a very good football team," the Hall of Fame linebacker said. "We just have to make sure that on this end, we prepare as best we can."

Singletary isn't San Francisco's only change. The 49ers have a new quarterback, too, with Shaun Hill replacing J.T. O'Sullivan since the coaching change.

Pushed by offensive coordinator Mike Martz and bolstered by running back Frank Gore, Hill was chosen the NFC offensive player of the week for his performance against the Rams. Now he's got to prove it wasn't a fluke against a defense that's coming off its best performance of the season, limiting Washington to two first-half scoring drives, both on short fields, in a 14-10 victory.

The good news for Hill is that Martz called a great game against them last year, when he was with Detroit. The Lions led 27-14 before falling 28-27.

One of Martz's key guys in Detroit was Roy Williams, who is now on the Cowboys. But the more interesting reunion involving a Dallas receiver is Terrell Owens going against the team where the T.O. phenomenon was born.

Although this is his fifth season away, it will be only the second time he faces the 49ers. Few former teammates remain, but San Francisco fans certainly remember when No. 81 was on their side.

Owens doesn't have a 100-yard receiving game this season and hasn't even cracked 70 in October or November. He was sent home from team headquarters Wednesday because of flulike symptoms. It seems unlikely this would be his breakout game - but, with T.O., that could mean the time is right.

Romo also should be better than he was last week, his first game in a month. He's more comfortable throwing with a splint protecting the broken pinkie on his passing hand, although he's also lobbying to play without it. The Cowboys haven't scored more than 14 points the last five games after averaging 29.2 the first six games.

"If we can execute and protect and do some of the things that I think we can, we've got a good chance to put some points on the board," Romo said.

With Dallas moving to a new stadium next year, this will be San Francisco's final visit to Texas Stadium.

While the Redskins, Giants and Eagles have been far more frequent foes, the 49ers and Cowboys have played the most memorable games against each other, both franchises often being on the upswing at the same time.

They've met in six NFC championship games, two under the hole-in-the-roof: January 1972 (preceding Dallas' first-ever Super Bowl title) and January 1994 (preceding the second championship of the Troy Aikman, Emmitt Smith, Michael Irvin era).

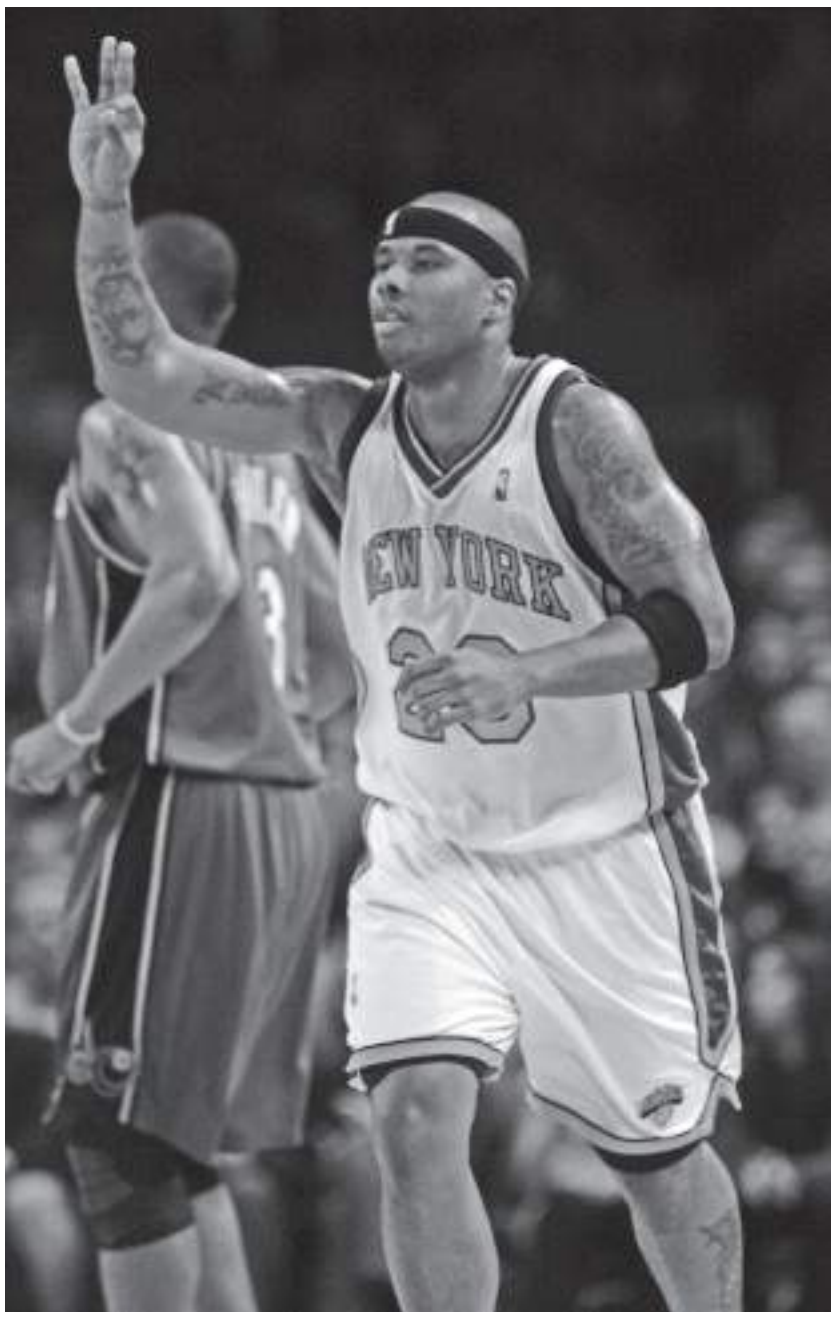
Richardson helps short-handed Knicks hold off Wizards

NEW YORK (AP)—Quentin Richardson had 34 points and 12 rebounds in one of his best games since joining New York as the short-handed Knicks held on to beat the Washington Wizards 122-117 in the NBA on Saturday.

Richardson made seven 3-pointers, two shy of the team record, and fell a point shy of his highest-scoring game since the Knicks acquired him from Phoenix in June 2005.

Nate Robinson had a season-high 27 points, Wilson Chandler added 23, and David Lee had 22 points and 12 rebounds to help the Knicks snap a three-game losing streak.

Antawn Jamison had 29 points and 13 rebounds for the Wizards, who dropped their fifth straight and fell to 1-10, their worst start since the 1966 Baltimore Bullets also opened 1-10.



AP

New York Knicks' Quentin Richardson (23) reacts after making a three-point shot during the first half of a basketball game against the Washington Wizards Saturday, Nov. 22, 2008 in New York.

Cavaliers 110, Hawks 96

At Cleveland, LeBron James led Cleveland to its ninth win in 10 games, scoring 24 points—19 in the second half—on 8-of-19 shooting.

James added eight assists, seven rebounds and a few more highlight-package dunks to help the Cavaliers improve to 10-3 and match their best start in 20 years.

Mo Williams added 23 points, Delonte West had 19 and Zydrunas Ilgauskas 17 for Cleveland. Maurice Evans scored 21 points for Atlanta, which has lost five of seven after starting 6-0.

Rockets 100, Magic 95

At Orlando, Florida, Yao Ming had 22 points and 13 rebounds to help Houston win for the fourth time in five games and snap Orlando's winning streak at five games.

Tracy McGrady and Rafter Alston added 17 apiece for Houston.

Jameer Nelson led Orlando with 21 points and six assists, and Rashard Lewis added 18 points, but the Magic shot only 40.7 percent and All-Star center Dwight Howard wasn't much of a factor because of foul problems.

Heat 109, Pacers 100

At Miami, Dwyane Wade shook off flu-like symptoms to score 38 points, and Miami rallied from 15 points down to beat Indiana.

Shawn Marion had 18 points and nine rebounds, and Michael Beasley scored 14 of his 17 points in the second half for Miami.

Marquis Daniels scored 25 points, and Danny Granger added 23 for Indiana.

Bucks 79, Bobcats 74

At Charlotte, North Carolina, Ramon Sessions scored 18 points and hit two clinching free throws with 13 seconds left for Milwaukee.

Charlie Villanueva added 15 points and eight rebounds for Milwaukee, which overcame 21 turnovers to hand struggling Charlotte its fourth straight loss.

Gerald Wallace scored 18 points, and Emeka Okafor added 16 points and 18 rebounds before fouling out for Charlotte.

Nets 112, Clippers 95

At East Rutherford, New Jersey, Yi Jianlian scored a season-high 27 points, and Vince Carter added 26 for New Jersey.

Devin Harris added 18 points and 10 assists, and Brook Lopez finished with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

Baron Davis had 30 points and 10 assists for Los Angeles.

Hornets 109, Thunder 97

At New Orleans, David West scored a season-high 33 points and Chris Paul had a triple-double to help New Orleans hand Oklahoma City its 11th straight loss and first under interim coach Scott Brooks.

Paul finished with 29 points, 16 assists and 10 rebounds.

Oklahoma City fired coach P.J. Carlesimo on Saturday after its 105-80 home loss to the Hornets on Friday.

Kevin Durant led Oklahoma City with 30 points on 11-of-16 shooting.

Suns 102, Trail Blazers 92

At Phoenix, Shaquille O'Neal had 19 points and 17 rebounds to power Phoenix past Porland.

Amare Stoudemire added 17 points, Steve Nash had 16 on 6-for-7 shooting, and Grant Hill scored 15 for the Suns. Raja Bell scored all 14 of his points in the second half.

Brandon Roy scored 26 points for Portland.

Jazz 103, Grizzlies 94

At Memphis, Tennessee, Mehmet Okur had a season-high 23 points for Utah, and Ronnie Brewer added 21 on 10-of-14 shooting.

O.J. Mayo led Memphis with 23 points, and Rudy Gay added 21.

Ginobili could return next week

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Manu Ginobili could return to the San Antonio Spurs' lineup next week, earlier than expected after he had surgery on his left ankle in September to repair ligament damage.

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich would not specify Ginobili's projected return, but he did say Ginobili has recovered more quickly than expected.

Ginobili said Friday he'd like to play in the Spurs' next game Monday night in Memphis. Popovich said he doesn't think that will happen.

"When he's ready, that's when he's going to play," Popovich said. "And, right now, he's not ready."

Ginobili had arthroscopic surgery repair to repair a ligament he re-injured while playing for Argentina in the Olympics. Ginobili was slowed by the injury during the Spurs' Western Conference finals loss to the Los Angeles Lakers.

The Spurs also are missing point guard Tony Parker. Parker, sidelined by a sprained left ankle, still is expected to be sidelined through the first week of December.

Thunder fire coach P.J. Carlesimo after 1-12 start

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—The losses kept piling up for P.J. Carlesimo, and it didn't matter which city his team called home.

With the relocated Oklahoma City Thunder off to an NBA-worst 1-12 start, Carlesimo was fired as coach Saturday and replaced on an interim basis by assistant Scott Brooks.

The firing followed a 105-80 loss to the New Orleans Hornets on Friday night, the Thunder's 10th straight setback.

Brooks made his debut Saturday night in a rematch with the Hornets in New Orleans, and general manager Sam Presti said Brooks would finish the season.

"This isn't about one person," Presti said. "There's accountability for everybody involved—players, coaches, myself and anyone involved with our basketball team. We understand that."

The Thunder also let go assistant Paul Westhead, who guided the Phoenix Mercury to the 2007 WNBA title and won an NBA title in 1980 with the Los Angeles Lakers.

Carlesimo was expected to produce a winner around Kevin Durant, but he never really stood a chance. Carlesimo inherited a roster shredded by the trades of stars Ray Allen and Rashard Lewis after a decision to rebuild.

"We have to get better no matter who the coach is," Durant said Saturday night in New Orleans before the Thunder's 109-97 loss to the Hornets. "To start off like we did my first year and now this year is tough to deal with. If we continue to work hard, things will start to turn around for us."

Carlesimo had questioned his team in recent games for failing to give full effort, performances resulting in a string of blowouts. The last six losses were by double-digits, and most of those were even more out of hand before the Thunder rallied.

"We feel like that is something that is nonnegotiable," Presti said. "We have to continue to play hard and put ourselves in positions to compete and win basketball games."

The loss Friday night served as a reminder of how the Hornets rebuilt from an 18-win season to a playoff contender during a two-year stay in Oklahoma City brought on by Hurricane Katrina. The Hornets improved by 20 wins their first season in Oklahoma City, and by last season were pushing the San Antonio Spurs in a second-round playoff series.

A similar scenario hardly seemed in the making for the Thunder following their switch from Seattle and discarding the SuperSonics nickname along the way.

"When you're hitting these struggles, there's different factors. I don't think it's necessarily professional and appropriate for me to dwell or dig into all of them," Presti said. "I'd rather just stay focused on the direction we're going."

Brooks, an 11-year NBA veteran, played on Houston's 1994 NBA championship team and bounced around with seven teams before becoming a Denver assistant in 2003. He also worked for Sacramento and joined Carlesimo's staff last season in Seattle.

"Things aren't good," Brooks said Saturday night in New Orleans. "It's a challenge to get our guys motivated to play every night. ... Our team needs direction. I have clear plans to make this team play with much more energy and passion."

Brooks has been a fill-in head coach a few times. He served as Sacramento's coach for two games in February 2007 when Eric Musselman was suspended for driving under the influence, and he substituted for George Karl in Denver when Karl was suspended for four games during the 2005-06 season. Brooks lost all four of those games in Denver, but won both when in charge of the Kings.

"He's someone that I do think has a skill-set potential," Presti said. "This is a new opportunity for him and as he continues to make his way and grow with our team, we're going to certainly support him and help him throughout the process."

Despite all the excitement leading to the season—with the team selling out its full allotment of season tickets in five days—only three of the eight home games have sold out: opening night, a visit from the NBA champion Boston Celtics and the return of the beloved Hornets.

That latest game turned into a rout and dropped Carlesimo's record with the team to 21-74 in just more than one season. Most of what had been a sellout crowd left early after the Hornets took a 32-point lead early in the fourth quarter.

"The first thing for us is coming to the floor with a passion and competing and playing a style of basketball that our fans are going to get behind and enjoy, and that our players are going to enjoy," Presti said.

Hal Steinbrenner: Offer to CC will have time limit

NEW YORK (AP)—CC Sabathia will have a deadline to accept the New York Yankees' contract proposal.

"We've made him an offer. It's not going to be there forever," Hal Steinbrenner said Thursday after he was approved as the team's new controlling owner during a meeting at Major League Baseball headquarters.

New York offered a six-year contract to the pitcher last Friday, the first day teams were allowed to start talking money with free agents. The proposal exceeds Johan Santana's $137.5 million, six-year contract with the New York Mets both in total and average, a baseball official familiar with the negotiations said. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to divulge details.

Greg Genske, Sabathia's agent, did not return a telephone message seeking comment.

The Yankees also are interested in pitchers A.J. Burnett and Derek Lowe. While the team has discussed parameters of contracts for the pair, it had not made formal offers.

Following the end of its streak of 13 consecutive playoff appearances, New York intends to make a major push for starting pitching. Mike Mussina announced his retirement Thursday, and the team intends to add several starters to a rotation that includes holdovers Chien-Ming Wang and Joba Chamberlain.

Andy Pettitte has said he wants to return, but the Yankees want him to take a cut from his $16 million salary last season.

Manny Pacquiao's 95 percent ready—trainer

BOXING

LOS ANGELES, California—Boxing superstar Manny Pacquiao has now breached the 90 percent conditioning level with still two more weeks left before he takes on the Golden Boy Oscar De la Hoya in Las Vegas.

This was the assessment made Friday by Pacquiao's Filipino trainer Buboy Fernandez following another day of heavy training at the Wild Card Gym under the supervision of trainer Freddie Roach.

"He's 90 to 95 percent ready," said Fernandez, the boxer's long-time pal, in Filipino. "Our chances are very good."

The same observation was echoed by Pacquiao's other Filipino trainer and nutrinionist Nonoy Neri, who said that if he was to bet, he'd put all his money behind a Pacquiao victory over De la Hoya, who is currently training at the Big Bear in California.

"After that sluggish performance last week, Pacquiao is now back in his old deadly self; I won't be surprised if this ends in a knockout," Neri said.

Meanwhile, the pound-for-pound king is reportedly planning on advising his younger brother Bobby to finally hang up his gloves following the decision defeat the other night in San Jose, California.

Manny Pacquiao speaks to the media during a workout in Los Angeles on Monday, Nov. 17, 2008. AP

In Las Vegas, Rey "Boom Boom" Bautista will take on Mexican Heriberto "Cuate" Ruiz in one of the undercards of Saturday's Ricky Hatton-Paulie Malignaggi showdown at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Both Bautista and Ruiz came in at an exact 122 lbs during official weigh-in held Saturday at the MGM Grand.

Bautista (26-1, 19 KO's) will not be defending his WBO Intercontinental super bantamweight title against the experienced Ruiz (39-7-2, 23 KO's).

Pacquiao will lord over light welters

If Freddie Roach has his way, the world better roll the red carpet out for the next undisputed light welterweight champion of the world.

And Pacquiao believes that when he's done with Oscar De La Hoya in their "Dream Match" on Dec. 6 in Las Vegas, nobody in boxing will bother asking who exactly Roach is referring to.

"This is my (chance) that the name Manny Pacquiao will be known not only in the Philippines, but in all boxing," the iconic Filipino jaw-buster told reporters during a media day at the Wild Card gym Monday in Los Angeles.

"This is the biggest fight in my boxing career."

Roach, meanwhile, told Manila reporters via a conference call in Tuesday's PSA Forum at Shakey's UN Avenue branch that he doesn't see Pacquiao sliding back to lightweight to defend the WBC title he won via a slam-bang ninth-round destruction of David Diaz.

The trainer believes the Pacman can gobble up bigger foes at the light welterweight class.

"I think 140 is his (new) fighting weight and 140 is the most realistic weight," Roach told PSA members.

Roach pronouncement sets Pacquiao up for the possibility of claiming a crown at a fifth weight class. Pacquiao is currently the only Asian to win world titles in four different weight divisions.

"Soon after [Pacquiao beats De La Hoya], Manny will become the [light] welterweight champion of the world," Roach said.

In the meantime, Team Pacquiao is focused at the task at hand; without doubt the Gen. Santos City native's biggest mission—literally—in his career.

While De La Hoya has said in the past that he is a natural welterweight, Pacquiao will be debuting in the 147-lbs mark for the first time. The Pacman started his career at 106 lbs.

Pacquiao is currently at 151 lbs while De La Hoya is down to 145.

The 29-year-old Pacquiao will give away four inches in height to the 5-foot-10 De La Hoya. The Golden Boy's reach is measured at 73 inches, five inches longer than Pacquiao, making it a safe bet for him to utilize his jab a lot during the fight.

But Roach said Pacquiao (47-3-2, 36 KOs), who is known for his ability to apply pressure from start to finish, will easily wear down the 35-year-old De La Hoya (39-5, 30 KOs).

"You look at the history of boxing when the older guy fights the younger guy, like when (Muhammad) Ali fought (Larry) Holmes or when Joe Louis got beaten by Rocky Marciano," Roach told Reuters. "I don't think Oscar will be able to keep up and I think we will knock him out in the late rounds." ***(PDI)***

SIS

From Page 28

in the high school and junior high school divisions of the All Schools swim meet.

SIS coach Betty Johnson and Whispering Palms' Jeff Race attributed their teams' successive triumphs in the meet to active participation from both their students and their parents.

"We have students who, a few weeks ago had yet to cross the 50m pool. But they really wanted to be part of the team, so they worked hard and came here in Marpi several times of the week to train. Their parents dropped them off here and patiently waited for the practices to finish. That's commitment and active involvement in sports," said Race adding they had more than 30 swimmers joining the 16th edition of the annual meet.

"We've been getting more students joining the swim team every year. They are encouraged to join the team because their parents support them," said Johnson, who added SIS had swimmers as young as students in the kindergarten.

SIS had 29 swimmers for last weekend's meet with veterans Cooper Graf, Sarah Johnson, Amanda Johnson, and Kai Staal leading the Geckos.

Joining them were Nuri Gutzwiller-Malakut, R.J., Taylor, and Lucas Knecht, Shane, Michael, Emily, Angelo, and Rafael Jones, Takumi Sugie, Maxi Braig, Lennosuke Suzuki, Kentaro Kitagawa, Moena Tagaki, Kaitlin and Bryce Daly, Mickey and Patrick Coleman, Jeane Bracken, James Kim, Crosby Schultz, Amber Roberts, and Annie Camacho.

Whispering Palms' elementary and junior high school teams were composed of Neghar Ratsguiy, Clay McCullough-Stearns, Marina Kaku, Gyu Hee Kim, Quintin and Colin Ramsey, Catherine Atalig, Sally Lai, Rachel Kwon, Maile Aldrich, Meghan Yost, Sionell Igisomar, Max Hawley, James Jang, Steven Goodwin, Carsten Torgeson, Kenyon Schultz, Steven Lee, Kristina Folta, Gabrielle Race, Troy Yong, Jae Ko, Aaron lee, Christian Miller, Amber Montenegro, Suah Cho, Liza Atalig, Maile Aldrich, Tony Atalig, Harry Hill, Minori Yoshida, Phalai Frink, Nicole Arenovski, Danny Auther, Ilia Corella, Raine Klaver, Gyu Yeon Kim, Rachel Kwon, and Victoria Chentsova.

BADMINTON

From Page 28

doza-Louis Camacho for the Shuttlers, Pauline Cielo-Keno Pablo for the Net Fighters, Riza Cano-Alfred Acosta for D' Blue Powers, Lupe Sabino-Roding Domingo for the Badminton All-Stars, and Merlie Tolentino-Puy Macario for the D'Bombers.

Results of the mixed doubles matches were unavailable at press time.

The eight squads will be playing in a round-robin format with the team with the most wins after seven games gaining the championship.

A win in each match will give a team one point. Six points are at stake per playing day.

Meanwhile, this year's team tournament organized by the Northern Marianas Badminton Federation kicked off with the parade of teams and a Best in Uniform competition.

The Red Dragons Shuttlers claimed the Best in Uniform award.

CNMI sports supporter Jerry Tan was among the judges in the Best in Uniform contest and delivered a brief message to participants.

Also making remarks at the opening ceremony was Traders Insurance president Lito Mendoza, who reiterated his company's support to badminton tournaments.

The Traders Insurance tournament is also supported by Shirley's Coffee Shop, Pacific Quick Print, Coral Ocean Point, PTI, Sun Palace Hotel, Wear-A-Marconi, Tropex, Dollar Days, and Labtech International.

PILCOWA

From Page 28

fore rescheduling the three matches in the first round of the playoffs.

"We still need to check the availability of the players," Muleta said.

In the regular season, the San Miguel caging had games every Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. In the playoffs, games were originally scheduled for weekends only.

The first round of the playoffs will have a single-elimination format, while the next round will be double-elimination.

Century Insurance drew a bye in the first round of the playoffs after claiming the pennant with its 5-1 record in the regular season.

Actually, Century tied MIGS in win-loss record, but the former took the pennant after beating the latter in their lone duel in the regular season, 98-94.

Diamond Auto Care finished the regular season with a 3-3 record tying C&R/NRG, but the former won the tiebreak for third place on a win-over-the-other rule. C&R dropped to fourth.

Reliance also defeated Aon Insurance in the tiebreak for fifth place. They had identical 2-4 slates in the regular season.

San Miguel had only one win in the preliminaries posting its lone victory over Reliance, 107-83.

Before starting the playoffs, the San Miguel caging held an All-Star Game on Nov. 15.

The Dark All-Stars, who were composed of players from C&R, MIGS, and Aon, prevailed over the Light All-Stars, 107-105.

Comprising the Light All-Stars were selected players from Century, Reliance, San Miguel Light, and Diamond Auto Care. Auto Care mentor Boy Garcia called the shots for the Light All-Stars, while C&R's Marvin Deocares coached the Dark All-Stars.

MIGS' Bonbon Cadagat was named All-Star MVP, while teammate Sonny Lerio won the 3-point shout contest held before the All-Star Game.

PELISAMEN

From Page 28

teams, as three were eliminated early for losing games via forfeitures.

The nine remaining teams will start the round-robin phase of the league with the Top 4 teams after eight games advancing to the semifinals.

Meanwhile, Rocball creator James Feger said that games set for tonight and on Wednesday have been rescheduled to give way to make-up games in the high school basketball league.

Feger also announced the pairings in the upcoming games: Islanders vs. Evenflow; No Mercy vs. Ghasias Brothers; FSM Rebels vs. Oakies; Naturals vs. Fanians; and Soul Rebels vs. Evenflow.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	12	2	.857	_
New York	7	6	.538	4 1/2
New Jersey	6	6	.500	5
Philadelphia	6	6	.500	5
Toronto	6	6	.500	5

Southeast Division

Orlando	9	4	.692	_
Atlanta	8	5	.615	1
Miami	7	6	.538	2
Charlotte	3	9	.250	5 1/2
Washington	1	10	.091	7

Central Division

Cleveland	10	3	.769	_
Detroit	8	4	.667	1 1/2
Milwaukee	7	8	.467	4
Chicago	6	7	.462	4
Indiana	5	7	.417	4 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Houston	9	5	.643	_
New Orleans	7	5	.583	1
San Antonio	6	6	.500	2
Dallas	6	7	.462	2 1/2
Memphis	4	9	.308	4½

Northwest Division

Utah	9	5	.643	_
Denver	8	5	.615	1/2
Portland	8	6	.571	1
Minnesota	2	9	.182	5 1/2
Oklahoma City	1	13	.071	8

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	10	1	.909	_
Phoenix	9	5	.643	2 1/2
Golden State	5	7	.417	5½
Sacramento	5	9	.357	6 1/2
L.A. Clippers	2	11	.154	9

Yesterday's Games

Houston 100, Orlando 95
Milwaukee 79, Charlotte 74
Miami 109, Indiana 100
Cleveland 110, Atlanta 96
New Jersey 112, L.A. Clippers 95
New York 122, Washington 117
Utah 103, Memphis 94
New Orleans 109, Oklahoma City 97
Phoenix 102, Portland 92

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Week in Sports

Athletes treated to sports festivities

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Sports festivities made the CNMI athletes' weekend busy.

First on the list was the NMA All Schools Cross Country Championships, which gathered runners from various elementary, junior high, and high schools on Saipan.

The championships culminated the series of cross country races that the Northern Marianas Athletics started late October.

The cross country festivities concluded with the recognition of individual and team winners in the 8-and-under, 10-and-under, 12-and-under, 14-and-under, and 18-and-under age groups.

Angelo Jones of Saipan International School, Gabrielle Race of Whispering Palms, and Marianas High School's Jacque Wonenberg were among those honored in the championships having won in the same event several times.

The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association hosted the second NMIFA Youth Festival of Football of the year and drew more participants than the first one held in January.

The football festival were participated in by around 300 youth strikers from four football clubs on Saipan, namely the MP United, Matansa FC, Independent FC, and Paire FC.

Hopwood Junior High School was turned into a big playground when the island's young strikers played from 8am to 2pm in four fields simultaneously.

Adding joy to the celebration was NMIFA's donation of 15 pairs of shin guards and six pairs of goalkeeper gloves to each of the four youth clubs.

The 2008 PILCOWA-San Miguel Beer Basketball League also had a festivity when it held its first All-Star Game.

The All-Star Game featured selected players from the seven teams participating in the inaugural league and they were divided into two teams, namely the Dark and Light All-Stars.

Both teams put on a show before the Dark All-Stars pulled off a thrilling 107-105 victory.

Bonbon Cadagat of MIGS was named the All-Star Game's MVP.

Festivities for the Thanksgiving Day are starting this week, but PIC celebrated early with its 15th Annual PIC Thanksgiving Softball Tournament at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield on Nov. 16.

Natibu, which placed only second to No Ka Oi last year, took the title that eluded the team in the 14th season of the annual tournament whipping Man Amigos, 17-7, in Game 2 of the championship showdown.

Natibu entered the finals with a twice-to-beat advantage after sweeping its preliminary matches. But it could not win the tournament earlier when Man Amigos posted a 10-7 triumph in Game 1.

Other regular tournaments on Saipan went ahead as scheduled with several teams keeping their clean record.

Daniel remained unbeaten in four games in the 2008 CIM-FCC Inter-Color Basketball League-3rd Genesis Cup, while four squads are still unscathed in the Budweiser 2008 Inter-Government/Business Softball League.

Saipan Southern High School is also undefeated in the MISO boys' caging.

The CNMI had visitors last week with organizers of the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia meeting local sports leaders and inviting the Commonwealth to compete in the quadrennial event.

Members of the local sports governing body, led by Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael A. White, attended the meeting that saw New Caledonia's Pacific Games organizing committee-dubbed NC2011 presenting their plans for 2011.

Pacific Games Council secretary general David Boyd said his three-person group is in a yearlong, island-hopping mission to invite member nations of the council to take part in the 2011 Games.

In other regional meet updates, the CNMI will be well represented in the 2010 Micronesian Games after several sports federations signified their plans of sending teams to the quadrennial event in Palau.

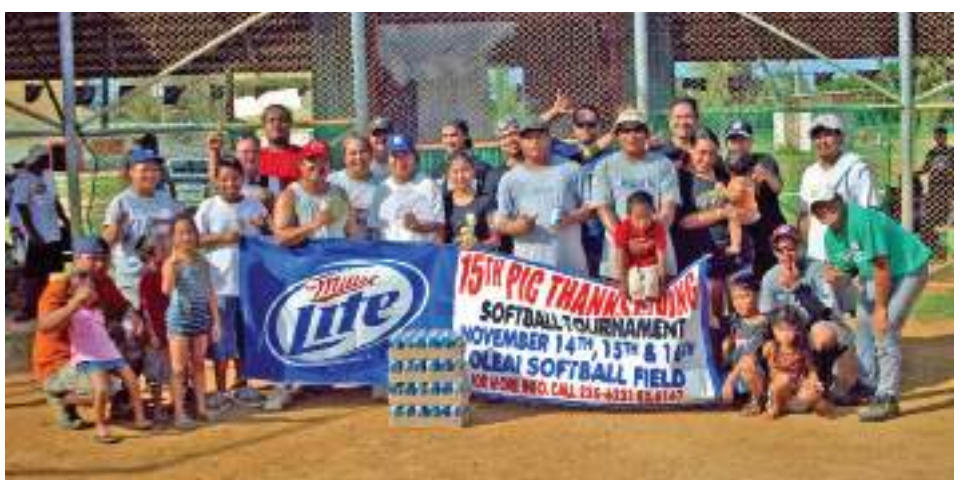
ROSELYN B. MONROYO
10-and-under eventual champion Gabrielle Race of Whispering Palms nears the finish line in the 1,500m race during the NMA All Schools Cross Country Championships at the Airport Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
NMA official Elias Rangamar gives instructions to participants at the starting line of the 5,000m race during the NMA All Schools Cross Country Championships at the Airport Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Paire FC and their coaches receive the 15 pairs of shin guards and six pairs of goalie gloves donated by NMIFA.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Paire FC striker (in red uniform) chases the ball, while an IFC defender guards him during their game in the 2008 NMIFA 2008 NMIFA Youth Festival of Football at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

MARK RABAGO
NC2011 president Pascale Bastien-Thiry shares to Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association members their plans for the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium conference room Wednesday night.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Members and supporters of Natibu pose for a group photo during the award ceremony for the 15th Annual PIC Thanksgiving Softball Tournament Sunday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield. Natibu defeated Man Amigos in the finals, 17-7.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Daniel's Alex Lauron, center, looks for a teammate to pass the ball to, as he is doubled team by Jeremiah's Boy Garcia, left, and Amor Casabuena during their game in the 2008 CIM-FCC Inter-Color Basketball League-3rd Genesis Cup at the CIM-FCC Basketball Court in Gualo Rai.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Dark All-Stars' Melvin Villarin goes for a short stab against the Light All-Stars defenders during the 2008 PILCOWA-San Miguel Beer Basketball League All-Star Game at the CIC Centre Basketball Court in Garapan.

Athletes treated to sports festivities

Sports festivities made the CNMI athletes' weekend busy. First on the list was the NMA All Schools Cross Country Championships.

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Surging Sooners rout No. 2 Tech, 65-21

Fifth-ranked Oklahoma brought an unceremonious end to No. 2 Texas Tech's perfect run in a 65-21 blowout in college football on Saturday.

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SIS, Whispering Palms rule All Schools

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Whispering Palms swim team and coach Jeff Race, far right back row, pose for a group photo after competing in the 2008 All Schools Swimming Championships Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan International School swimmers are all smiles after ruling the high school and junior high school divisions of the 2008 All Schools Swimming Championships Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan International School and Whispering Palms extended their winning ways in the All Schools Swimming Championships organized by the Saipan Swim Club.

Whispering Palms topped the elementary division of the 2008 edition of the annual meet held Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.

Whispering Palms swimmers collected 278 points to beat seven other schools. It was the fifth straight time that Whispering Palms won the overall championship in the elementary division.

SIS finished second in the elementary division with its 167 points, followed by Saipan Community School (144), Garapan Elementary School (89), San Vicente (18), Home School (18), Eucon International School (9), and Ladera International School (6).

Points were given to each school based on how their swimmers finished in the 13 events lined up for various age groups, from 8-and-under to 18-and-under.

The SIS Geckos topped the junior high school and high school divisions, downing Saipan Community School and Marianas High School in closely fought battles for the championship.

In the junior high school, SIS earned 104 points, only 11 points more than Saipan Community's 93. Grace Christian Academy ended in third with 30 markers, followed by Whispering Palms (18), Home School (18), and Marianas Baptist Academy (14).

The race between SIS and MHS swimmers in the high school division provided the best and closest contest in the meet with the Geckos gaining 162 points against the Dolphins' 158. GCA was ranked third anew with 16 points and Kagman High School placed fourth with 14.

It was the third straight time that SIS prevailed

See SIS on Page 26

Badminton team tournament starts

The Red Dragon Shuttlers' Malou Mendoza reaches for the shuttlecock during their mixed doubles match against the Smash Killers in the opening day of the 2nd Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Hostilities in the 2nd Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament began Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The opening day pairings were the Gray Hawks vs. Bad Masters, D' Blue Powers vs. Badminton All-Stars, Smash Killers vs. the Red Dragon Shuttlers. and D' Bombers vs. Net Fighters.

The eight participating teams played the mixed doubles game first, followed by the men's singles, and men's and women's doubles.

Playing for the Gray Hawks in the opening day for the mixed doubles event were Annette Ta and Marvin Pullan, Bad Masters had the tandem of Irene Santiago and Louie Cielo, Malou Men-

See BADMINTON on Page 26

Pelisamen lifts Brothers to win in Rocball league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ghasias Brothers notched their second win in as many games in the 2008-2009 World Organized Rocball Community League after pulling off a come-from-behind victory over the Soul Rebels Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The Ghasias Brothers were down, 39-47, after three sets, when Freddie Pelisamen connected on three aces and scored a goal to lift his team to a 17-2 victory in the third set.

The fourth-set triumph also allowed the Ghasias Brothers to nail a 56-49 juiced-out victory against the Soul Rebels.

Pelisamen finished with 21 points, making three aces, six kees, and a goal.

Ben Lisua led the Soul Rebels' losing cause, drilling 16 points on an ace, four kees, and two goals.

Three other games were played Saturday with the Oakies, Islanders, and Fanians downing separate foes.

The Oakies had a juiced-out triumph over the Naturals, 54-42.

The Oakies leaned on Joemil Lisua's 10 points to edge the Naturals in four sets. Joemil had two aces and three kees.

Ichnis Kapwich also fired 10 points for the Naturals, making two aces and three kees.

The Islanders recorded the third juiced-out win Saturday when they topped the FSM rebels, 60-49.

Jerry Saures was the Islanders' heavy hitter, tallying 14 points on three aces, a xunx and three kees.

Joshua Titus paced the FSM Rebels with 11 points, as he posted an ace, three kees, and one goal.

The Fanians recorded the most lopsided juiced-out win of the day winning by 33 points against No-Mercy, 66-33.

Larry Sharry scored 15 points for the Fanians, hitting four aces, a kee, and a goal.

Myron Laniyo had only eight points for No-Mercy, making four kees and an ace.

After three weeks of action, the league is now down to nine

See PELISAMEN on Page 26

Pilcowa caging playoffs suspended

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Games in the playoff round of the Inaugural 2008 PILCOWA-San Miguel Beer Basketball League over the weekend were suspended due to rain.

The first playoff game between MIGS and San Miguel Light set for Saturday was cancelled when it rained early afternoon making the CIC Centre Basketball Court in Garapan unplayable.

The MIGS-San Miguel tiff was rescheduled yesterday afternoon, but the match was suspended in the third period due to rain.

Also called off were the playoff matches between Diamond Auto Care and Aon Insurance and C&R Distributor/NRG and Reliance Construction.

League coordinator Fando Muleta said they will still meet with team representatives be-

See PILCOWA on Page 26

MIGS' Banjo Basila (1) battles C&R Distributor/NRG's Mel Capalad, partly hidden, for the rebound during their regular season game in the Inaugural 2008 PILCOWA-San Miguel Beer Basketball League at CIC Centre Basketball Court in Garapan.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO